PUBLICATIONS

OF THE

ROCHESTER HISTORICAL SOCIETY

ROCHESTER, N. Y.

HISTORICAL SOCIETY
—OF—
Southern California
C 4 Lib. No. 252

974.78
R586

Southern California

PUBLICATIONS

OF THE

ROCHESTER HISTORICAL SOCIETY

ROCHESTER, N. Y.

VOL. I.

MUSEUM
HIST SCI & ART
LOS ANGELES

ROCHESTER, N. Y.
PUBLISHED BY THE SOCIETY.
1892.

E. R. ANDREWS, PRINTER, AQUEDUCT ST., ROCHESTER, N. Y.

MUSEUM
NAT SCI & ART
LOS ANGELES

CONTENTS.

PAGE.

INTRODUCTION, - - - - - - - - - - 5

I.—NOTES ON THE ABORIGINAL TERMINOLOGY OF THE GENESEE COUNTRY. BY GEORGE H. HARRIS, - - - 9

II.—HISTORY OF THE TITLE OF THE PHELPS AND GORHAM PURCHASE. BY HOWARD L. OSGOOD, - - - 19

III.—THREE EPISODES IN THE HISTORY OF THE GENESEE VALLEY. BY GEORGE MOSS, - - - - - - 52

IV.—THE OPENING OF THE GENESEE COUNTRY. BY MRS. JANE MARSH PARKER, - - - - - - - 59

V.—THE GENESEE RIVER AND WESTERN NEW YORK. BY HENRY E. ROCHESTER, - - - - - - - 67

VI.—HISTORY OF THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS OF THE CITY OF ROCHESTER. BY S. A. ELLIS, - - - - - 71

VII.—MUSIC IN ROCHESTER. BY HERVE D. WILKINS, - - 90

VIII.—MEMORIAL SKETCHES.

HENRY E. ROCHESTER, - - - - - - 98

HENRY O'REILLY, - - - - - - - 101

CHESTER DEWEY, - - - - - - - 103

ASHBEL W. RILEY, - - - - - - - 105

HENRY E. PECK, - - - - - - - 106

HIRAM SIBLEY, - - - - - - - 106

JAMES L. ANGLE, - - - - - - - 107

IX.—APPENDIX.

CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS, - - - - - 109

DIGEST OF THE MEETINGS, - - - - - 111

LIST OF OFFICERS, 1891–'92, - - - - - 113

LIST OF MEMBERS, - - - - - - - 114

LIST OF BOOKS IN THE LIBRARY, - - - - 116

The Rochester Historical Society was duly incorporated under the laws of the state of New York, in November, 1888, and it is now competent to hold and dispose of real estate and to receive gifts and bequests.

PUBLICATIONS

OF THE

ROCHESTER HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

INTRODUCTION.

The society had its origin in a social gathering at the residence of Mrs. Gilman H. Perkins, on December 17th, 1887, when it was resolved that the formation of an historical society in Rochester was desirable. A committee was appointed to draw up a constitution, which committee made its report at a meeting held in the same place on March 3d, 1888, when the constitution was adopted and the following named persons were chosen for the respective offices: Dr. E. M. Moore, Sr., president; Rev. Dr. A. H. Strong, vice-president; Mrs. Jane Marsh Parker, corresponding secretary; William F. Peck, recording secretary; Gilman H. Perkins, treasurer, and Herman K. Phinney, librarian. The following were appointed by the president as the board of managers: Henry E. Rochester, M. F. Reynolds, Hiram Sibley, George E. Mumford, James L. Angle, F. A. Whittlesey and W. C. Morey.

At the next meeting of the society a code of by-laws was adopted, which, with the constitution, will be found in the latter part of this volume. From that time to the present, meetings have been held, generally on the second Friday in each month from November to June, at each of which a paper has been read by some member of the society, on a subject connected with the settlement and growth

of this locality. All the meetings have been held at the residence of Mrs. Perkins, except that for December, 1891, which was held at the house of Mrs. E. M. Moore. At the beginning of the second year of the society the original officers were re-elected; at the next election Dr. Strong was chosen president, Judge James L. Angle vice-president and Adelbert Cronise librarian. In April, 1891, Judge Angle was elected president, Gilman H. Perkins vice-president, Charles H. Wiltsie treasurer and Howard L. Osgood librarian. The sudden death of Judge Angle, a few days later, rendering a new election necessary, Dr. Strong was again chosen president, and Charles E. Fitch was elected vice-president, in place of Mr. Perkins, who had resigned. The two secretaries have been continued in their respective offices from the beginning to the present time. The board of managers now consists of M. F. Reynolds, G. E. Mumford, W. C. Morey, John H. Rochester, C. E. Fitch and S. A. Ellis.

While the society has not as yet acquired so much wealth as to enable it to purchase any real estate, or even to rent a building in which to hold its meetings, it has the occupancy of a commodious room in the Rochester Savings Bank building that is sufficient for the purpose of storing and arranging in suitable form all the books, papers, maps and relics that are now in the possession of the society. At the meeting held April 6th, 1888, an appeal to the public, prepared by the board of managers, was adopted, the following extract from which is deemed appropriate in this connection:

It will be the business of the society to diffuse the information it may collect by the establishment of a museum of local history, by the preparation and publication of papers upon matters of local concern, and by such other means as may conduce to general instruction. That this object may be effectually attained the society requests that all who feel disposed to encourage the design will, at their earliest convenience, transmit to its care manuscripts, records, books and pamphlets relative to the history of this region and particularly to the following points of inquiry: Orations, sermons, essays and poems delivered on any public occasion; proceedings of any ecclesiastical conventions of any denomination held in this vicinity, narratives of missionaries sent to this region; transactions and proceedings of local

political, literary and scientific societies; catalogues and circulars of the university, academies and schools; topographical descriptions, directories and maps of cities, towns and villages of Western New York; magazines, newspapers and other periodicals, particularly such as appeared prior to 1850; biographical memoirs of any of the earlier settlers; original essays on the natural, civil, literary or ecclesiastical history of Western New York. The society solicits the aid of citizens in the promotion of its ends, not only by the donations above indicated, but by the enrollment of their names as members of the organization, for which purpose application may be made to any one of the officers or of the board of managers.

I.—NOTES ON THE ABORIGINAL TERMINOLOGY OF THE GENESEE RIVER.[1]

By George H. Harris.

When Columbus sailed westward upon an unknown sea his objective destination was India, the most celebrated of all the countries of Asia. Situated on the river Indus, from which it derived its name, this opulent country had become famed among the early nations, who termed the people Indians.

Upon landing in America Columbus supposed he had reached India, and applied the name Indians to the inhabitants of San Salvador. Europeans continued the use of that term and the red men of America became universally known by an appellation that originally had no corresponding word in their languages.

Equally improper is the term Aborigines as applied to the race of red men. Preceding it in the occupation of this continent were other races of men whose history we may never know, but whose grim relics and imperishable monuments still remain an indisputable evidence of their earlier presence.[2] Long usage has fixed the names Aborigines and Indians upon the native race, and we accept and apply those titles as though the red men were in fact the primitive inhabitants of the land.

Our definite knowledge of the Indians dates from the landing of Columbus in 1492. The ante-Columbian history of these people is derived mainly from their mythology. If we accept the belief of the red men, regarding their origin—as expressed in their traditions—they "sprang out of the earth" on the grounds of their early occupation; or, as explained by Dr. Morgan,[3] they have been here for so great a period they have lost all knowledge of their nativity and know not whence their forefathers came. Cusic, a native historian,[4] asserts that the red men dwelt here six thousand years ago, that they were contemporary with the mastodon, whose ponderous bones, occasionally unearthed within the limits of Rochester, have resisted the elements of decay for a period of time which geologists say may exceed one thousand years.

[1]Read before the Rochester Historical Society, June 13, 1889.
[2]Peck's History of Rochester, p. 14.
[3]League of the Iroquois, by Lewis H. Morgan, p. 7.
[4]Ancient History of Six Nations, by David Cusic, p. 20.

The Icelandic Sagas tell us the Indians possessed our eastern seacoast in the ninth century, and they had long occupied the interior. When Achaius reigned in Scotland (787–819) and Egbert founded the kingdom of England (827) Indian warriors trod the trails of the Genesee country, their hunters roamed the plains and the smoke of their wigwams ascended from the openings of its primeval forests. "When the continent itself was first occupied," says Schoolcraft, "when the impulse of population began its movement, and how far it proceeded in the career of conquest and the division of nations and languages, we cannot pretend with any certainty to say. . . . It was evident, however, as soon as inquiry began to be properly directed to the subject, that, while the territory of North America was overspread with a multiplicity of tribes and bands, each bearing a separate name, and claiming separate sovereignty, there were but few generic stocks; and that the diversity noticed by Europeans, and insisted on by the aborigines themselves, had arisen chiefly from the progress and development of languages among rude and unlettered tribes. Distinct from this diversity of language they might have all been called One People."

When Europeans penetrated the interior of New York in the seventeenth century, they found a portion of the present state in the possession of a confederacy of Indian nations, known in later years as the League of the Iroquois. The people comprising this league belonged to that linguistic family designated Huron-Iroquois. Tradition locates their early ancestral home on the lower waters of the St. Lawrence. North of them in Canada dwelt the fierce Algonkins, with whom they were continually at war. It is asserted that many hundreds of years ago, these two great families of hereditary enemies united their forces and overthrew a people known as Allegewi, from whom the Allegany mountains derived their name, who then owned and occupied the country south and west of the great lakes. The conquerors spread over the new territory; time and minor migrations effected separations of the original Huron and Algonkin stocks, and in their places grew up other nations.

At a period described in aboriginal mythology as corresponding with the ninth or tenth centuries, two tribes living on the St. Lawrence became involved in war with the Adirondacs, to whom they were tributary, and, like the Israelites of old, departed from the land of their oppressors. Uniting their forces the refugees ascended the St. Lawrence river, passed out upon the broad bosom of Lake Ontario,

and turning the prows of their little crafts to the south, coasted the shore seeking a favorable point to invade the country. The accounts of this migration vary, and legendary lore fails to include any reference to the methods of invasion and conquest, beyond the supposition that the two tribes entered the territory at the Chouaguen or Oswego, and Casconchiagon or Genesee rivers, and were again united near the Oswego, from whence they journeyed as one people down the Mohawk and Hudson rivers to the ocean.

David Cusic, whose quaint book records the incidents of this journey as related by the Tuscaroras,[1] says the main body returned up the Hudson, and six families entered into a friendly alliance. The first family settled near the Hudson, and are known in modern history as Mohawks. The second family, now called Oneidas, located on the bank of a creek two and a half days' journey westward of the first. The third family, or Onondagas, took up its residence at Onondaga, the fourth or Cayugas, at Cayuga lake, and the fifth or Senecas, between Lakes Seneca and Canandaigua. The sixth family, or Tuscaroras, wandered west and south to Carolina.

The territory originally occupied by the first five families lay between Hudson river and Lake Canandaigua. These families increased in numerical strength until they attained the dignity of separate nations possessing tribal divisions. About the middle of the fifteenth century they united in a confederacy or alliance, governed by fifty sachems. Their territory now stretched from the Hudson to the Genesee, from Lake Ontario to the headwaters of the Susquehanna river. In the figurative language of their race, they likened their league to the form of their houses, which were extended by continuous additions for new families until they were two or three hundred feet in length. These dwellings were called "long houses," and the people applied that term in the singular to their confederacy.

In Mohawk the name is "Ka-non-si-on ni," a compound word formed of ka-non-sa, house, and ion-ni, extended or drawn out, signifying "extended house."[2] The Seneca form is "Ho-dé-no-sau-nee," or "people of the long house," differing slightly in meaning from the Mohawk.

The French who came in contact first with the Mohawks, termed that nation Hirocois or Iroquois, and applied the same name to all

[1]See also Legends, Customs and Social Life of the Seneca Indians, by Rev. J. W. Sanborn, p. 11.

[2]Iroquois Book of Rites, by Horatio Hale, M. A., 79.

members of the league. The English, who were more closely associated with the Iroquois, learned to distinguish the separate governments and termed them collectively the Five Nations. About 1712 the Tuscaroras were expelled from Carolina and returning to New York, reunited with the other families, settling between the Oneidas and Onondagas. Thereafter the confederacy was called the Six Nations of Iroquois.

The mother-tongue of these nations was Huron as spoken by the Mohawks, but differences in location and the introduction of foreign words in time produced variations in speech, or dialects. While the intercourse maintained in family and council between the Iroquois served to preserve a certain unity in language, and some words are identical in all the tribes, others exhibiting a slight difference caused by sectional accent,—the dialectical variation in the speech of the Six Nations is distinctly marked.

At the origin of the league the Senecas were located at the western end of the national territory or long house, and guarded the confederacy from all enemies in that direction; hence they were termed "door-keepers" of the league. In Mohawk they were called Ro-na-nin-ho-hon-ti, "the door-keepers," or literally "they who are at the doorway." In the singular this became Ro-nin-ho-hon-ti, or "door-keeper," a term sometimes applied to the entire Seneca nation,[1] whose two principal chiefs, as hereditary guardians of the western door of the long house, held the rank of military commanders of the league. In Seneca the term was rendered Ho-nan-ne-hó-ont, or the "door-keeper;"[2] but this was properly a league name.

The Seneca, as well as each other nation of the league, had a descriptive title by which it was usually designated by other people. As the country then occupied by them was mountainous,[3] the Senecas were mentioned by other nations by dialectical terms identifying them with hills or mountains, the most prominent features of their place of residence. These appellations were derived from the root o-non-da, hill, with its qualifying adjectives go-wa, or go-wah-nah, big or great. There were many dialectical forms and combinations of these words, the signification being nearly identical. The modern Seneca term is Nun-dá-wä-o-no, or Great hill people, compounded from o-non-dá-wa, great hill, and o-no, people. The name Seneca,

[1]The Iroquois Book of Rites, 79.

[2]Leaque of the Iroquois, 97.

[3]The principal town was on Bare Hill, in Middlesex, Yates Co.

by which the nation is now denominated, is a modernized form wholly unknown to the primitive nation.

The Iroquois had few, if any, places of permanent residence. While they sometimes lingered many years in one locality, their towns were frequently moved to new locations. From their ancient seat east of Lake Canandaigua, the Senecas migrated slowly westward. The sites of their old villages are scattered over the country from Seneca lake to Lake Erie. The date of occupation of some of these former abodes of the Senecas are well known, but in numerous cases no record regarding them exists, and it is only within the past half century that public attention has been specially directed to their identification; a work the writer hopes in time to accomplish. In the restricted limits of this paper only a few points of special interest can be presented.

The most important natural feature of the country between Seneca lake and Lake Erie was the Genesee river. The eastern bank of the stream formed the western boundary of the Iroquois till the middle of the seventeenth century. Prior to that period the country south of Lake Ontario, from the lower Genesee to Lake Huron, was owned by a powerful nation, known to the Senecas as Kah-kwa, to the the Hurons as Attiwandaronk, and to the French as Neutral. This last name was given by the French from the fact that the nation remained neutral in the wars existing between the Iroquois and the Hurons of Canada. In 1649 the Iroquois conquered the Hurons, and about 1651 destroyed the Kah-kwas. In 1656 they exterminated the Eries, who dwelt south of the Kah-kwas between Lake Erie and the upper Genesee. Rapidly increasing in numbers and skill of arms they overran the country from the Hudson to Lake Huron, from the back lakes of Canada to the Tennessee river.

To make good their losses in war the Iroquois adopted individuals, and occasionally entire tribes, from conquered nations. Words from a variety of foreign dialects were thus grafted on the mother tongue, producing a language whose component parts included Huron-Iroquois, Kah-kwa, Erie, Andaste, Tuscarora, Delaware, Cherokee, besides many terms borrowed from unknown and unnumbered lesser tribes brought into intimate association with the conquerors.

With the exception of Erie, there is no distinct geographical title in western New York that perpetuates the memory of the two mighty nations who once owned the territory west of Genesee river. The streams, the hills, the plains, the towns, are known by names selected

from the vocabulary of the white man, except in a few instances where modernized forms of Iroquois terminology serve as reminders of the last red possessors.

The most prominent of these aboriginal names is the word Genesee, a modern form of the ancient descriptive term Zon-es-ché-o, by which the Iroquois designated the Genesee valley between Avon and Mt. Morris. The word was varied according to the pronunciation of individuals, or difference in tribal dialects, as Zon-es-che-o, Chen-nu-as-sio, Gen-ish-a-u, Jen-ess-he-o, Gen-is-haw, Gen-nee-see-o, Gen-ness-see; or to express certain meanings, as Gen-ish-a-u, "shining, clear opening," Chen-ne-sí-co, "pleasant, clear opening," Gen-nis-he-o, "beautiful valley," Gen-ne-seé, "clear valley" or "pleasant, open valley."

The river was known to the Iroquois in its entirety simply as gah-hun-da, a large stream; but various sections along its course bore appellations descriptive of prominent objects or striking features peculiar to the immediate neighborhoods described; and Zon-es-che-o referred to the channel only in the section of the valley bearing that name. When the first village of Senecas was established in that quarter, the inhabitants were identified by other Iroquois as Zon-es-che-os, a purely geographical designation. In time as the Zon-es-che-o, or Genesee Indians advanced in national importance, their locative title was given to all the valley and river; but the established orthography of the word was not generally adopted until after the revolutionary war, when the whole of western New York became known as the Genesee country.

The Indians seldom considered an un-navigable stream of much importance, and as the canoe navigation of the upper Genesee practically ceased near the present site of Angelica, in Allegany county, they termed that place Gä-ne-ó-wĕh-ga-yat, considering it literally as the "head of the stream."

Caneadea, like Genesee, comprehended a section of several miles of the river above Portage. The name is derived from the Seneca locative Gah-ó-yah-de-o. The word is given differently according to the shade of meaning as, "the heavens rest upon the earth," "where the heavens rest upon the earth," etc. It is related by aged Senecas that in early days the country about Caneadea was densely wooded. In one place near the river there was a large open space in the forest, possibly one of the great clearings made by the unknown people who preceded the Senecas in ownership

of the soil. The main trail up the river ran through this opening, and when parties entered the glade the sky appeared to close the opposite end, or "touch the earth." The Indians described the spot as "the place where the sky (or heavens) rest (or lean) upon the earth," and the description was so appropriate that no red man could mistake the location. When the Senecas established a settlement at the place it received the descriptive name of the locality which also included the river. In later years the term was applied to a creek, and finally became the title of the reservation including the former sites of several villages.

The commonplace name of Rush creek is the English form of the Indian descriptive title of the Genesee at the mouth of the creek, where a swift current was the peculiar feature of the river. The Seneca name is Shon-witty-ye, and means "rushing waters."

Wiscoy is the anglicised name of the river at the lower angle of the Caneadea reservation. There is some uncertainty regarding the definition. The word is said to be a compound including the Seneca numeral adjective "wis," and its signification, "the creek with five falls." An Indian village located near the confluence of the river and creek was designated O-wa-is-ki, and the interpretation is given as "under the banks." As the village was really situated on a flat the description is not perfect, but the term was recognized as one that designated that particular section of the Genesee in the days of Indian occupation, and its true meaning may hereafter be accurately determined.

The falls in the Genesee at Portage were known by the same names borne by a similar class of natural features at Rochester; but various points were described in more definite terms. Many words formerly in common use by the Senecas, have become obsolete, and the continual compounding and abbreviation of terms have in numerous instances so obscured their original roots and meanings that excellent authorities in the dialect disagree in their interpretations. Regarding the signification of Nunda there are different explanations. Certain of the present generation of Senecas say the word means "a field of potatoes," averring that the dialectical term for potatoes is o-nun-un-dah. This closely resembles o-non-da-deh, the ancient term signifying that the hills or mountains "rise up," in its abbreviated form indicating that the country is rough or "hilly." The Indian town of Nun-dow was named from this circumstance. The facts concerning the terminology of this region would form a chapter.

The name Gardow, given to the river near the former home of Mary Jemison, the old "white woman" captive, describes the great mural escarpment forming the east side of the channel opposite her residence. It is the hardened accent of Gah-dá-o, meaning "bank in front," and is probably akin to o-non-da-deh, though differing in orthography.

Da-yó-it-gă-o, "where the river issues from the hills," exactly describes the location where the waters of the Genesee after their long journey in the depths of the cheerless gorge of rock, emerge into bright sunlight near Mount Morris and pursue their onward course through the winding channel of the open valley. The name Squakie Hill, by which the west bank of the Genesee at this point is generally known, does not apply to the river. Like the word So-no-jo-wau-ga, the Indian title for Mount Morris on the opposite side, it was the name of a Seneca village.

The site of Geneseo was termed O-hä-di, which means "trees burned," or "scorched trees." It is still recounted by aged Cattaraugus Indians who were born in the Genesee valley, that this name had its origin in the attempt of some man to burn a tree when the surrounding woods took fire and all the forest in the neighborhood was burned or scorched. The incident, for some reason, became known to all Indians in the valley, and to the present day the Senecas mention Geneseo as O-ha-di, or as pronounced by some—O-hot-ti.

When Mary Jemison and Gordon, the latter a white captive from the Ohio, first resided with the Senecas in the Genesee valley during the old French war, there was a large Indian village, which Mrs. Jemison called Gen-is-hau, on the flats near the mouth of Fall brook. William Markham, in company with four other soldiers from General Bradstreet's army, visited the place in 1764. It was then the great town of the western Senecas, and termed the Chin-nee-see "castle" or residence of the principal sachem.

When the town removed to the west side of the valley on the present site of Cuylerville, where General Sullivan destroyed the settlement in 1779, it was still called the Chin-nee-see castle, but the locative term was De-o-nun-dä-ga-o, descriptive of the place "where the hill is near." The principal chief was then known as Little Beard, in distinction to Long Beard of Caneadea, and when the village was rebuilt it was termed Little Beard's town.

The Indian village of Ga-no-wau-ges was on the west side of the river, nearly two miles from the modern village of Avon, on the trail

between Avon and Caledonia. The name is variously interpreted, the accepted version being "the fetid waters," in allusion to the strong scent from the waters of the mineral springs in that locality.

Two or three miles below Ga-no-wau-ges, as the river runs, a mighty elm stood like a lone giant, towering above the open flat on the present estate of Guy Markham, a grandson of William Markham the colonial soldier who visited the Genesee castle at Fall brook in 1764. This great tree was the forest-king of the Genesee valley. At the smallest place in the trunk it was eleven feet in diameter. Its circumference just below the branches was thirty-eight feet, and one yard above the ground it measured forty-five feet. At noon it shaded an acre of ground, and was considered the largest tree in the Indian settlements along the Genesee. The Seneca name was Kon-gah-go-wah, or Kon-gah-go-wah-nah, from kon-gah, "elm," and go-wah, or go-wah-nah, "big" or "largest;" literally "elm-largest," or as rendered in English "the largest elm." It constituted a local monument of magnificent proportions, easily recognized by the unlettered natives whose light canoes skimmed the surface of the river in that vicinity.

Black creek, six miles south of Rochester, and Red creek, which enters the river through the new Genesee Valley park in the city, were distinguished by the color of the waters in the respective streams, as Te-car-na-gă-ge, "black waters," and Gwa-tah-ah, "red;" but each creek had other names the history of which would occupy several pages.

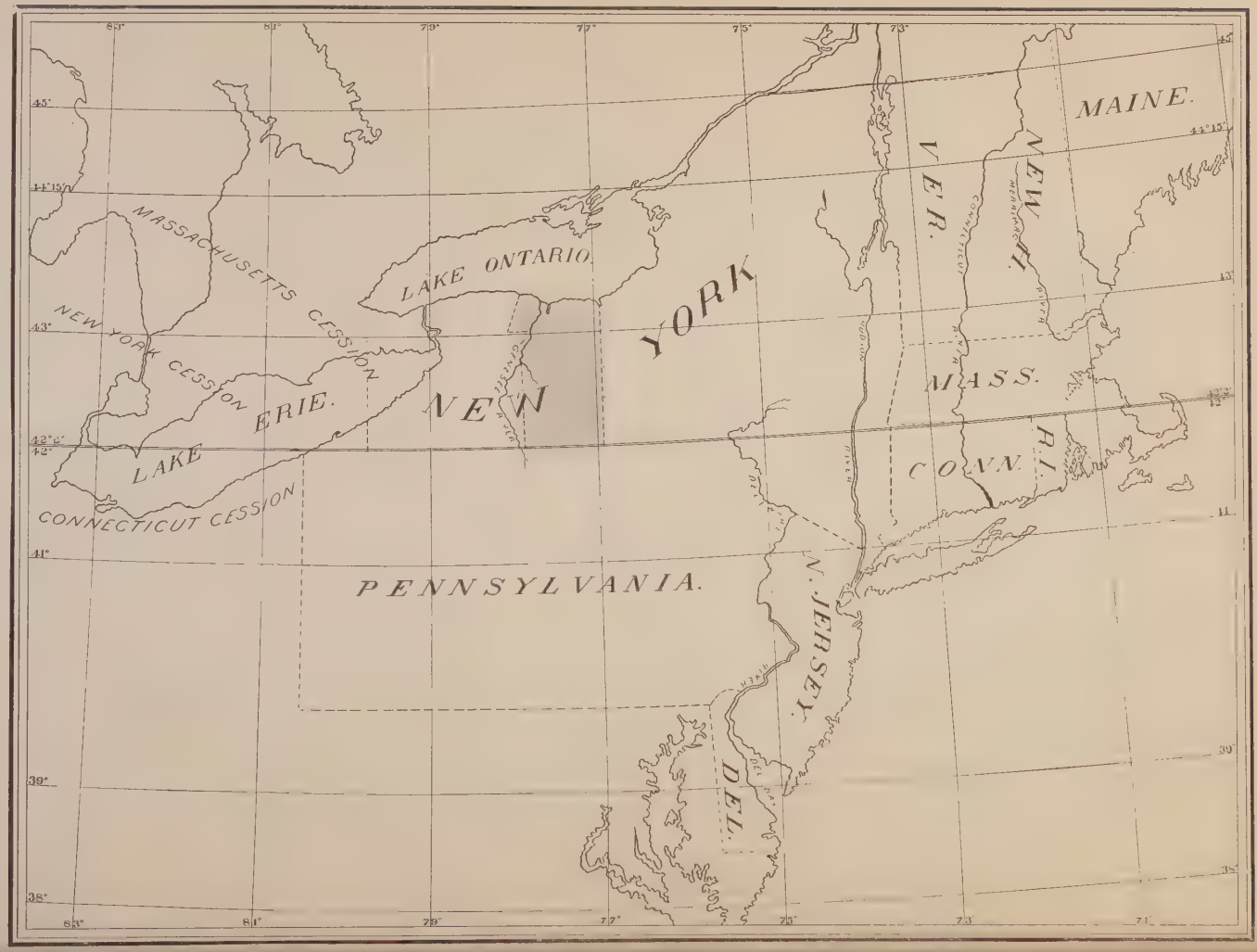
Each distinct section of the Genesee from Red creek to Lake Ontario bore a descriptive title. The natural condition of the river from Red creek to the lower falls was, in the period of aboriginal occupation, very different from its present appearance. The deep water of the upper channel north of Elmwood avenue, shallowed up below the present bridge, making a good fording place over the ledge of limestone that then formed a rapid extending from the State dam to Court street. The river in that interval was choked by massive boulders, rendering the otherwise unobstructed waters exceedingly rough. In the Seneca this section was termed Gah-na-wan-deh, "a rough stream," or "rapids."

The falls were the most important characteristics of the river in the vicinity of Rochester. The Seneca for waterfall is Gah-sko-sa-deh. It has several forms of application. Collectively all the falls in Rochester would be Gah-skŏ-sa-deh-ne-o, or "many falls." If we wish to say "at the falls," the form would be Gaht-sko-sa-go; or if we speak

of the two steps of the lower falls it would be Gah-sko-sa-deh-nyoh, or "falls near together." The upper fall of about fourteen feet, once situated between the Erie canal aqueduct and Court street, was Gah-sko-so-ni-wah-aah, or Gah-sko-so-ne-wah, "little fall." The fall ninety feet in height north of the New York Central railroad bridge, was Gah-sko-so-wah-neh, or "great fall."

The lower fall just above Seneca Park bridge was called Gah-sko-sah-go, "under" or "below the falls;" rendered by some "at the falls," as specially designating the present site of Rochester, but the orthography of the term, as previously stated, should be Gaht-sko-sa-go. The Indians applied the locative more particularly to the river in the vicinity of the East Seneca park (formerly Brewer's) landing, where several of their trails converged on the bank. The primitive term was Gas-kon-cha-gon, another form of Gah-sko-sah-deh. This was applied to the channel generally from the lower fall to the lake, and was the earliest form adopted by white *voyageurs* on the coast of Lake Ontario, and was interchangeable with Gan-ia-ta-ron-to-quot, the aboriginal name of Irondequoit bay. This confusion of locatives arose from the fact that the Indians considered the bay the navigable or practical mouth of the river, and regarded the portages from the lower fall to the rapids, and from Irondequoit creek to the rapids, as the same portage crossed by different paths.

PLATE I


MAINE.
VER.
NEW
MASSACHUSETTS CESSION
LAKE ONTARIO.
NEW YORK CESSION
NEW YORK
MASS.
LAKE ERIE.
CONN.
R.I.
CONNECTICUT CESSION
PENNSYLVANIA.
N. JERSEY.
DEL.

II.—THE TITLE OF THE PHELPS AND GORHAM PURCHASE.[1]

By Howard L. Osgood.

I. Introductory.

The Phelps and Gorham Purchase lies in Western New York within the lands once occupied by the Seneca Indians, the largest and most important tribe of the Iroquois or Six Nations, a confederation composed of the Senecas, Cayugas, Onondagas, Oneidas, Mohawks, and, after 1715, the Tuscaroras, whose several territories extended from the Hudson rather indefinitely westward. These Six Nations carried their conquests of native tribes into parts far remote from their homes, and were lords of the land in all the adjoining districts. Neighboring tribes after subjection obtained permission before selling lands.

It is happily unnecessary to discuss the right of the discoverers and first settlers of North America, or that of the European states, to take the lands of the aborigines. In strong contrast with the policy generally adopted is the course pursued by the Dutch traders and their English successors in New York,—no land within our state has been summarily taken, but all has been bought from the Indians, some fairly and some by artifice. As early as the year 1629, the West India Company prescribed, in the "Freedoms and Exemptions" granted to colonists, that "whoever shall settle any colony out of the limits of Manhattes Island shall be obliged to satisfy the Indians for the land." The English followed the Dutch in this policy.

At different times during the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries parts of the western territory of the present state of New York were claimed by her neighbors, Pennsylvania, Connecticut and Massachusetts, and each of these claims, based on a charter and not on actual or constructive possession, affected the title of some part of the Phelps and Gorham Purchase.

II. The Western Lands.

By the terms of the royal charters granted to the colonies of

[1]Read before the Rochester Historical Society April 5, 1889.

Connecticut and Massachusetts, each was entitled to territory extending to the Pacific ocean, and the conflicts with New York arising therefrom were so far settled after the colonial period as to limit these disputes to territory lying on the east of the present west line of New York state. It may be interesting to notice the circumstances of this limitation. The claims to western lands pressed by seven of the original United States, and the demands of the remaining six, delayed and even imperiled the ratification of the Articles of Confederation. After several years of effort to secure the unanimous ratification of these Articles, and in order to prevent a disruption, the state of New York nobly took the initiative and passed an act on February 19, 1780, "to facilitate the completion of the Articles of Confederation and perpetual union among the United States of America," and to assist in providing "a common fund for the expenses of the war," and offered for that purpose a cession of her western lands. About a year later, on March 1, 1781, the New York delegates in Congress executed a deed ceding to the United States both the jurisdiction and the right of soil in lands west of a north and south line passing through the most westerly bent of Lake Ontario. (See Plate I.) This cession, together with other related questions, was referred to a committee of five, which, among other matters, examined the claims of New York to the ceded territory, and reported May 1, 1781, recommending that the cession be accepted, and gave the following reasons for its action:

"1. It clearly appeared to your committee that all the lands belonging to the Six Nations of Indians, and their tributaries, have been in due form put under the protection of the Crown of England by the said Six Nations, as appendant to the late government of New York so far as respects jurisdiction only.

"2. That the citizens of the said colony of New York have borne the burthen, both as to blood and treasure, of protecting and supporting the said Six Nations of Indians, and their tributaries, for upwards of one hundred years last past, as the dependants and allies of the said government.

"3. That the Crown of England has always considered and treated the said Six Nations, and their tributaries, inhabiting as far as the forty-fifth degree of north latitude, as appendant to the government of New York.

"4. That the neighboring colonies of Massachusetts, Connecticut, Pennsylvania, Maryland and Virginia, have also, from time to time,

by their public acts recognized and admitted the said Six Nations and their tributaries to be appendant to the government of New York.

"5. That, by Congress accepting this cession, the jurisdiction of the whole western territory, belonging to the Six Nations, and their tributaries, will be vested in the United States, greatly to the advantage of the Union."

On October 29, 1782, Congress accepted "all the right, title, interest, jurisdiction and claim of the State of New York," as ceded by the instrument of March 1, 1781.

Maryland, immediately upon the delivery of the New York deed, ratified the Articles of Confederation, and at last the States were United. In 1785 Massachusetts yielded her claims to all the lands beyond the New York cession line, but not until 1800 did Connecticut completely surrender her western territory to the United States, and then only by securing to herself a large tract in Ohio, afterward called the Western Reserve.

By these cessions the disputes of Connecticut and Massachusetts with New York became limited to the lands lying within the western part of the last named state.

Plate I. shows these cessions and the lines of the colonies referred to hereafter. The Phelps and Gorham Purchase is shown by the shaded part.

III. The New York Claims.

The territorial rights of New York are derived from three sources, (1) the early occupancy by the Dutch, under the authority of the United Netherlands; (2) the submissions and cessions of the Indians; and (3) the royal charters.

A company of Dutch merchants fitted out the first ship which sailed within the waters of this state, and Henry Hudson, an Englishman, commanded it. After having coasted along the New England shores, in September, 1609, he entered the river now named after him, and, finding that it could not lead him to India, returned to his employers with a glowing account of the rich furs produced by the region he had discovered. Trading expeditions fitted out by private enterprise soon followed this news, and by the year 1615 small settlements had been made on New York Island, and near the present location of Albany. The name New Netherlands was now given to Dutch North America.

On October 11, 1614, the States General of the United Nether

lands granted a monopoly of trade for four voyages to the "United Company of Merchants, who have discovered and found New Netherland, situate in America between New France and Virginia, the sea coasts whereof lie in the latitude of forty to forty-five degrees," but did not purport, however, to convey any right of soil. The great Dutch West India Company was incorporated June 3, 1621, and by its charter obtained an exclusive right for twenty-four years to trade "in the countries of America," to take jurisdiction of the same "for the promoting of trade," and was charged with "the peopling of those fruitful and unsettled parts."

Both the trade and the settlements on the Hudson river progressed rapidly under a system of bounties offered by the West India Company to colonists, and because of the religious freedom which invited fugitives from continental persecutions. In 1655, the redoubtable Stuyvesant reduced the Swedish settlements on the Delaware, and extended the Dutch possessions to that river.

The New Netherlands, in 1649, asserted its boundaries to be New England on the north-east, Virginia on the south-west; "on the north runs the river of Canada a great way off in the interior; the north-west side is partly still unknown;" and Van Der Donck in his "Description of New Netherlands" published in 1656, judged that the land extended "several hundred miles into the interior."

During the occupancy by the Dutch they made various treaties with the Indians, including the Senecas, who in 1660 renewed the "peace made some years before," and declared that the Dutch were "Chiefs of the whole land," and particular mention is made of the extensive beaver trade which they enjoyed with this tribe. In fact, a pacific policy was quite uniformly carried out and the Indians became close friends with the Dutch and even submitted themselves in a limited way to their government. These merchants continued the custom of purchasing the land from the Indians before excluding them. In 1662 Governor Endicott of Massachusetts and Governor Bredout of Nova Scotia informed the Dutch Council that the Mohawks had been depredating in their colonies, and asked assistance to obtain satisfaction from the Indians. This request has been alleged to be an acknowledgment of the jurisdiction of the Dutch.

King Charles II. had no love for the Hollanders and, with a willing ear to the complaints of his customs officers and as an answer to the demand of the States General for the establishment of the boundary between the Dutch and the English, on February 29, 1664, he

directed a grant to issue to his brother, the Duke of York, of lands now comprised within the state of Maine and other adjoining lands, and also that island or islands commonly called by the several name or names of Matowacks or Long Island, ... together also with the said river called Hudson's river, and all the lands from the west side of *Hudson's* river to the east side of Delaware bay." This described with some intelligibility the lands purchased for the Crown from the Earl of Stirling and those in possession of the Dutch on the Hudson and Delaware; but the grant itself, which is of March 12, 1664, conveyed premises identical with these, except that it included "all the land from the west side of *Connecticut* river to the east side of Delaware bay." The reason of this change is somewhat conjectural. It was found that the coveted city of New Amsterdam was on the *east* side of Hudson's river, and that, if the boundary was stated to be the Connecticut, the inclusion of the city would be certain. There had been a small but troublesome Dutch fort planted on the west side of the Connecticut river, which by the terms of the grant would be included within its amended bounds. It seems reasonable to conclude that this patent was drawn so as to give the Duke of York the right of soil as soon as the settlements on the Connecticut, Hudson and Delaware should be conquered and to furnish one excuse for an expedition against the colony. There were no Dutch settlements in North America, outside of the territory comprised in this grant.

On the same day that the king ordered the grant to his brother, he directed an expedition to be sent against the Dutch in America and, on September 8, 1664, the royal purpose was fulfilled in the capture of New Amsterdam by Richard Nicolls, a dependent of the duke, and by him made deputy-governor of the new province. On the 25th day of the same month, Nicolls made a compact with the Mohawks and the Senecas whereby they were granted the protection of his government. Soon afterward the fleet reduced Fort Orange (renamed Albany from one of the duke's titles), and a little later the Delaware settlements were forced to capitulate. New Amsterdam and New Netherlands became respectively the city and province of New York.

The Treaty of Breda between the two home governments, made in 1667, quieted all Dutch claims in favor of England, but war was soon renewed with the United Netherlands, and Admirals Evertsen and Binckes, in 1673, suddenly appeared before New York and by supe-

rior force compelled the Commandant Manning to surrender on July 30. Albany and the Delaware settlements were soon reduced.

In a few months the treaty was made between the Dutch and the Mohawks, in which the latter state that they have always been one flesh with the Dutch. In fact, during both the Dutch and English occupations, treaties were made almost annually with the Indians, relating to trade, peace or protection, and, after the earliest years, in order to create and establish a barrier to the incursions of the French from the north. Ever after Champlain first shot an Iroquois in an expedition with the Hurons, the confederated tribes were enemies of the French.

Under the Treaty of London, concluded February 19, 1674, England ceded Surinam in the East Indies to the Netherlands and in exchange received New York again, and Director Anthony Colve ended the Dutch rule in North America by his surrender to Edmund Andros on November 10, 1674.

As we have above noted, the duke's patent of 1664 was made before he or the Crown had obtained possession of the premises thereby granted, and, seemingly in order to cure the legal defect arising from this fact, Charles again gave these lands to his brother by a patent of June 29, 1674, containing the same description of premises.

During all this period and for a hundred years more, the whole northern and western parts of this state were claimed by the French by right of prior discovery by Champlain in 1609, long and continuous occupation by Roman Catholic priests and French traders and conquest of the Indians; but all such rights were concluded by the English conquest of Canada and the Peace of Paris in 1763. Prior thereto, however, and at the request of the Five Nations, Governor Dongan had caused the arms of the Duke of York to be affixed to the stockades of their towns; in 1690 the Five Nations admitted themselves to be subjects of one great king and queen with the English; in 1698 Lord Bellomont informed the governor of Canada that the Five Nations were always considered as subjects of the king of England; and Article 15 of the Treaty of Utrecht, 1713, provided that the French should not "molest the Five Nations subject to the Dominion of Great Britain." Lieutenant-Governor Nanfan, of New York, had held a council with the Five Nations at Albany, July 19, 1701, at which they conveyed to the Crown by deed, a large tract of land extending westward from Jarondigat (Irondequoit) to the head of Lake Michigan, and in return obtained the promise of assistance

and protection against the French. Nanfan in his report to the Lords of Trade, August 20, 1701, said that this tract was eight hundred miles long and four hundred miles broad, including all the beaver-hunting country of the Five Nations. The Senecas, Cayugas, and Onondagas made a deed to the king, dated at Albany on September 14, 1726, confirming the deed of 1701 as to themselves, and granting the king, George I., a strip of territory lying along the south side of Lake Ontario and running sixty miles inland, and it was agreed that the other lands of the Three Nations were to be protected by the king. Each of these deeds included the site of Rochester, then far less important than Irondequoit bay, the great gate to the Genesee country. Subsequently by deed dated January 10, 1741, the Senecas conveyed to George II. a small tract around Tierondequat (Irondequoit), twenty miles wide on the lake and extending southeastward thirty miles. Soon after this, a permanent superintendent of Indian affairs, Sir William Johnson, was appointed for New York, and continued to exercise the functions of his office until his death shortly before the beginning of the Revolution. Col. Guy Johnson was then appointed his successor, and continued to act until the beginning of the war, when he retired to Canada.

The Indian deeds above mentioned were obtained by the efforts and at the expense of the province of New York, and with the purpose of gaining rights wherewith to oppose the French claims and to exclude the French traders, as well as steps toward the erection of a line of frontier military posts, and the province was under constant expense for the preservation of the Iroquois alliance. Even at the time of the Revolutionary war these Indians were true to the English cause.

The patents of New Jersey, granted by the Duke of York to Berkeley and Carteret, June 24, 1664, and June 29, 1674, conveyed a part of the territory given to him by his royal brother, "extending to the northward as far as the northermost branch of said bay or river of Delaware," thus suggesting the duke's construction of the New York patents, under the usual rule of construction of such documents, namely: That the northern boundary of his province ran from the head waters of the Connecticut river, so as to include all "the west side" of that river; thence to the head waters of the Hudson river, so as to include all thereof, and thence to the head of the northernmost source of the eastern or main branch of the waters flowing into Delaware bay. This line, one may easily see by

reference to Plate I., excluded the whole of western New York; but the preoccupancy of the Dutch along the Hudson, and the agreements with Massachusetts (May 28, 1773) and Connecticut (November 28, 1683) as to the eastern boundary of New York, created a line over which the latter province alleged that her neighbors should not pass.

The commissions issued by the Duke of York, and after him by the Crown, to the successive governors of the province, recite the territory under their jurisdiction to be "the Province of New York and the territories dependent thereon in America." These "territories dependent" were construed to include the lands of the Six Nations on account of the treaties and deeds above mentioned; and it seems that the adjacent provinces acquiesced in this construction. The Congressional Report of May 1, 1781, is quite conclusive of the fact that the most valid and important claim to western New York, asserted in behalf of this state, was based upon the submissions and cessions of the natives.

IV. The Pennsylvania Claim.

William Penn, in payment of a debt due to his father, received a patent from Charles II., under the date of March 4, 1682, which included territory bounded on the east by Delaware river, "on the north by the beginning of the three and fortieth degree of northern latitude," on the south by the fortieth parallel, and "to extend westward five degrees in longitude, to be computed from the said eastern bounds."

Penn shrewdly obtained from the Duke of York, August 31, 1682, a surrender of all claims to this territory; but one question was still left open and was actually disputed for ninety years between the two colonies: the meaning of "the beginning of the three and fortieth degree of northern latitude." Pennsylvania suggested, rather than alleged, that it was the forty-third parallel. New York argued, that, as the equator is the beginning of the first degree of latitude, so the forty-second parallel is the beginning of the forty-third degree. The forty-third parallel of latitude crosses the Phelps and Gorham Purchase, passing through it a little north of Geneva, and at the middle of the town of Rush in Monroe county, and, if this line had been the northern boundary of Pennsylvania, all of western New York would have belonged to the former, except an irregular and narrow strip along the shore of Lake Ontario. (See Plate I.)

There was not a little friction between the two provinces on this account, each desiring to control the rich fur trade with the Six Nations and the waterways leading into their lands, as well as the and itself, when it should be ready for settlement. In 1774 the Proprietaries of Pennsylvania, in a petition to the king, abandoned their claims to any land north of the forty-second parallel and, a little later in the same year, by joint action with New York, the northeast corner of Pennsylvania was marked by a monument in the forty-second parallel of north latitude, on the bank of the eastern or Mohawk branch of the Delaware river. In 1787 a part of the division line was fixed by commissioners of the two states, and it was completely and finally verified and monumented under similar control in 1885.

It is not necessary to discuss the meridian or western boundary of New York, as no claim affecting the Phelps and Gorham Purchase has ever been connected with it.

V. The Connecticut Claim.

This relates to a narrow strip of land two minutes in latitude or about two and one third miles wide, extending along the whole of the north side of the Pennsylvania boundary line. This is usually called the Connecticut Gore.

Space cannot be given to the story of the contest between Connecticut and Pennsylvania, as to their conflicting territorial rights under their respective charters, nor to the history of the Susquehanna Company. The claimants under Connecticut resorted even to arms against the state of Pennsylvania in the two Pennamite and Yankee wars, and, until a decree was rendered by the United States commissioners at Trenton, December 30, 1782, in favor of Pennsylvania, the dispute remained unsettled.

The colony of Connecticut, by the charter of Charles II., of April 23, 1663, received territory bounded on the east by Narragansett bay, on the north by the line of the Massachusetts colony, on the south by the sea, and extending from Narragansett bay to the South Sea (Pacific Ocean) on the west. This charter was granted a year before the first charter to the Duke of York, and these boundaries included all the southern part of his province. Difficulties immediately arose between the two colonies, which continued until they were temporarily composed by an agreement dated November 28, 1683, settling a joint boundary, as to its greater part, at twenty miles

east of the Hudson river. This agreement was confirmed by the king in council, in March, 1700. Disputes were continued, not, however, by either party repudiating the agreement, but by contentions and delays concerning the survey of this line and its location on the ground.

The decree of Trenton was accepted by Connecticut as settling her claims to territory south of the forty-second parallel, but it was then believed that the dividing line between Massachusetts and Connecticut, running west through a point three miles south of the head of the Charles river, was in forty-two degrees two minutes, north latitude; and this parallel, being extended westward from the Delaware river, included between it and the north boundary of Pennsylvania, and all along the latter, a strip two minutes or two and one third miles in width. In Plate I., the Gore is shown between the parallel lines marked forty-two degrees two minutes and forty-two degrees and extends from the Delaware westward to the Cession line of New York.

In 1795 Connecticut was building a capitol, and the contractors, Ward and Halsey, agreed to accept the Gore in payment of forty thousand dollars of their account, and, as the state found this an easy way of settling the bill, on July 25 this land was conveyed to them, "extending from the northeast corner of said Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and abutting on the north line of Pennsylvania as aforesaid, westward . . . and bounded northerly on the south line of Massachusetts."

The division line between Pennsylvania and New York having been determined before this time, the state of New York had taken jurisdiction of the Gore by including it within her county lines, and Massachusetts, several years before, had assumed to convey a part of this strip, as will be shown. Many conveyances of other parts of the Gore had been made by New York also.

Emboldened by the petition to Congress made by Massachusetts in 1784, and with their deed to fortify them, the Connecticut Land Company, organized by the contractors, entered on the Gore lands. The New York legislature promptly resented this intrusion by suitable enactments in 1796, and assumed the defense of certain ejectment suits brought by the Connecticut claimants against grantees under Massachusetts and New York. One of these suits was against Mary Lindley and others, and involved the title to a part of Township I., Range 2, of the Phelps and Gorham Purchase.

At Hartford, in September, 1797, one of these cases came on for

trial in the United States Circuit Court. The defendants alleged that the Gore was not within the state of Connecticut, and hence was not within the jurisdiction of the court, and on account of other technical defects in the proceeding the trial was postponed, but was soon removed to the United States Supreme Court for the determination of the question whether the states were parties to the action. A decision was rendered in 1800, the court refusing to pass upon the question of jurisdiction. Before a new trial was reached in the Circuit Court, the state of Connecticut had formally renounced all her claims to land lying west of the east line of New York (excepting the Western Reserve), and the controversy was terminated.

VI. The Massachusetts Claim.

We now reach the most important claim, and the only successful one of those with which we have to deal.

In 1606 certain English adventurers applied to James I. for a charter. He, "greatly commending and graciously accepting of their desires for the furtherance of so noble a work, which may, by the Providence of Almighty God, hereafter tend to the glory of His Divine Majesty in propagating a Christian religion to such people as yet live in darkness and miserable ignorance of the knowledge and worship of God, and may in time bring the infidels and savages, living in those parts to human civility, and to a settled and quiet government," most piously, and doubtless sordidly, granted a charter dated April 10, 1606, to two associations, named respectively the London Company and the Virginia Company, giving to the former, land on the eastern coast of North America, between thirty-eight degrees and forty-five degrees north latitude, and to the latter, land from thirty-four degrees to forty-one degrees north latitude, both being limited in extent to one hundred miles inland. It will be noticed that these two territories overlap each other to the extent of three degrees in latitude.

The colony of the Pilgrims at Leyden obtained a sub-grant of land from the Virginia Company whereon to settle for the purpose of obtaining religious freedom, and sailed for America in the Mayflower, with great store of household goods. They landed December 21, 1620 (N. S.), on Plymouth Rock, about in latitude forty-two degrees north. Their grant did not take effect, as they had landed and settled within the chartered limits of the London Company, and not in the territory granted to them.

On November 3, 1620, James I. granted to the "Council established at Plymouth, in the county of Devon, for the planting, ruling, ordering and governing of New England in America," a new company of adventurers, lands in America "in breadth from forty degrees of northerly latitude from the equinoctial line to forty-eight degrees of the said northerly latitude and in length by all the breadth aforesaid throughout the main land from sea to sea . . . provided always, that . . any of the premises hereinbefore mentioned and by these presents intended and meant to be granted, be not actually possessed and inhabited by any other Christian Prince or Estate, or within that southerly colony heretofore by us granted to be planted by divers of our loving subjects in the south part."

A sub-patent to the New England colonists was executed by the Council on June 1, 1621, and they then gained their first right of soil.

The grantees under this last charter conveyed to Sir Henry Rosewell and others, by deed dated March 19, 1628, "all that part of New England in America, which lieth and extendeth between a certain river there commonly called Monomack River, alias Merrimac River, and a certain other river there called Charles River, being in the bottom of a certain bay there commonly called Massachusetts . . . Bay, and also all and singular those lands and hereditaments whatsoever lying within the space of three English miles to the south part of said . . . Charles River or of any or every part thereof; and also all . . . the lands . . . lying and being within the space of three English miles to the southward of the southermost part of said Bay, called Massachusetts . . . Bay, and also all those lands . . . which lie . . . within the space of three English miles to the northward of said River, called Monomack, alias Merrimac, or to the northward of any or every part thereof, and all lands . . . within the limits aforesaid . . . in length and longitude of and within all the breadth aforesaid throughout the main lands there from the Atlantic and Western Sea and Ocean on the east part to the South Sea on the west part." On March 4, 1629, Charles I., by a charter reciting this deed, confirmed these lands to a corporation entitled "the Governor and Company of the Massachusetts Bay in New England," composed of the grantees in said deed and some additional associates; but the lands "actually possessed and inhabited by any other Christian Prince or State," at the date of the charter of 1620, were still excepted from the conveyance.

The autonomy enjoyed by the New Englanders under their charter, together with the fact that the charter itself had been transferred to America, were galling to the king. After much opposition on the part of the colony the patent of 1629 was finally revoked by decree of the High Court of Chancery, June 18, 1684, and New England was without a charter for seven years, during which time the colony was ruled with much difficulty by royal governors.

William of Orange was naturally well disposed to the American Puritans, and accordingly the charter of William and Mary to the "Province of Massachusetts Bay in New England" issued on October 7, 1691. Under this grant the colonies of New Plymouth, Massachusetts Bay, Maine, Nova Scotia, and the intervening parts were united under one government, and the description therein of the lands of Massachusetts Bay followed that in the charter of 1629, except that they were stated to extend "toward the South Sea or westward *as far as* the colonies of Rhode Island, Connecticut and the Narragansett country."

The patent of 1620 constituted the foundation on which Massachusetts built her claim of title to lands in New York. It was a paper title only, and obnoxious to much criticism. It was asserted on the part of New York, when the conflict had matured, that (1) the charter of 1620 was void on account of the proviso and the prior occupation by the Dutch of some part of the territory granted; (2) the grant by the Council of Plymouth was of no effect because based on a void charter; (3) the charter of 1629 was void as being in terms a confirmation of a void deed and not a new and independent grant, and also in that it contained a proviso similar in terms to that in the prior charter; (4) the charter of 1629 was revoked and cancelled by the decree of 1684 and the deed of 1628 followed its fate; and (5) the last charter limited the territory of the colony to extend at least no farther than the limit of Connecticut, which had been fixed by the agreement of 1683 at a line twenty miles east of the Hudson.

Not until after the Revolution did Massachusetts press her claim to the western lands. All prior disputes with New York had reference only to her eastern boundary.

VII. The Controversy Settled.

The Revolutionary war temporarily composed this sisterly quarrel, until, in 1784, after the treaty of peace, failing credit and a demand for new lands suggested the Western New York tract to the finan-

ciers of Massachusetts as a possible source of revenue. This tract lay to the east of the eastern line of the lands ceded in 1780 to the United States. Sullivan's campaign against the Senecas in 1779 brought his army into the Genesee country and the soldiers had carried away memories of an unsettled region of marvelous fertility.

It will be remembered that the north and south limits of Massachusetts were parallels respectively three miles north of the Merrimac river and three miles south of the Charles. The former parallel is in forty-four degrees, fifteen minutes north; the latter is in forty-two degrees, three minutes north, but at this time it was believed to be in forty-two degrees, two minutes north.

In 1784 (May 27) the Commonwealth of Massachusetts presented a petition to Congress, reciting the charters of 1620 and 1629, and the deed to Rosewell and others, and stating that the south boundary of the state was in latitude forty-two degrees, two minutes north, and the north boundary was in latitude forty-four degrees, fifteen minutes north (see Plate I.); that all this territory was the just and proper right of the Commonwealth; that New York had set up a claim to some part of this land; and requested that commissioners be appointed to determine the controversy. Congress took action on this petition on June 3, 1784, and gave notice, pursuant to the ninth of the Articles of Confederation, that the two states appear before Congress, by their agents, on the first Monday of the succeeding December, to proceed in the matter. On November 12 the New York legislature passed an act, appointing James Duane, John Jay, Robert R. Livingston, Egbert Benson and Walter Livingston, agents to "vindicate the right and jurisdiction of this state against the claims of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts." On December 8 the agents of New York met John Lowell and James Sullivan, agents of Massachusetts, before Congress, then sitting at Trenton. After presentation and exchange of credentials, the agents were directed (December 10) to agree upon judges to constitute a court for determining the matter in question. On June 9, 1785, they made a joint report that they had agreed upon judges and requested commissions to issue for a court to meet at Williamsburg, Virginia, on the third Tuesday of November following. On the first of November, however, they reported their difficulties in securing judges and asked a postponement of the proceedings, which was granted.

The difficulty of securing judges suitable and willing to serve impelled the agents of both states to request their legislatures to allow

them to settle the dispute out of court and in such manner as their judgment should dictate. Accordingly, appropriate acts were passed by New York and Massachusetts respectively on April 28, and July 5, 1786; and some changes were made in the agents. The agents met at Hartford, Connecticut, in November, 1786, and, after negotiating for about three weeks, on December 16, they executed a compromise agreement, by which New York retained jurisdiction of all the territory claimed by her, and Massachusetts obtained the right of extinguishing the Indian title to the soil of about six and one-quarter millions of acres. The terms of this agreement were in substance as follows:

After reciting the claims of the two states and the proceedings in connection therewith, the agreement provides:

1. Massachusetts cedes to New York the government, sovereignty and jurisdiction of the territory claimed by the latter state.

2. New York cedes to Massachusetts the right of pre-emption of the soil from the Indians and all other right (except that of government) in two hundred and thirty thousand four hundred acres lying between the Owego and Chenango rivers and in all the lands now within the boundaries of New York west of a line "beginning in the north boundary line of the State of Pennsylvania in the parallel of forty-two degrees north latitude, at a point distant eighty-two miles west from the north-east corner of the State of Pennsylvania on the Delaware river . . . and from said point . . . running on a due meridian north to the boundary line between the United States of America and the King of Great Britain," but excepting a strip one mile wide along the east side of the Niagara river.

3. Massachusetts cedes to New York all other lands involved in the controversy.

4. The lands ceded to Massachusetts are to be exempted from general or state taxes until fifteen years after grants thereof shall be confirmed by Massachusetts, but are to be subject to town and county taxes only, provided that the exemption "shall not be construed to extend to such duties, excises or imposts, to which the other inhabitants of the State of New York shall be subject and liable."

5. No rents or services are to be reserved in grants by Massachusetts.

6. Citizens of the United States inhabiting any of these lands are to be entitled to the same immunities as the citizens of New York.

7. No adverse possession is to interfere with the rights of Massachusetts.

8. New York is required to retain the government of these lands as long as Massachusetts retains the ownership.

9. Massachusetts may, by authorized agents, hold treaties with the Indians concerning the right of soil, and with armed force, if necessary.

10. Massachusetts may sell the pre-emption right, and the grantees may extinguish the Indian claims by purchase, but no such purchase is to be valid unless made in the presence of and approved by a superintendent to be appointed for the purpose by Massachusetts, and having no interest in such purchase, and unless such purchase shall be confirmed by Massachusetts.

11. The grantees under Massachusetts within six months after the confirmation of their grants are to cause such grants to be recorded in the office of the secretary of state of New York.

This agreement was signed by John Lowell, James Sullivan, Theophilus Parsons, and Rufus King, agents of Massachusetts, and by James Duane, Robert R. Livingston, Robert Yates, John Haring, Melanchton Smith, and Egbert Benson, agents of New York.

On January 13, 1787, Governor Clinton reported this agreement to the legislature, and on the 24th and 25th days of the same month, the Senate and Assembly examined it. There seems to have been no formal resolution confirming the cession.

The settlement resulting in this treaty was afterward approved by Congress, and the judges who had been appointed were discharged.

VIII. The Purchase from Massachusetts.

The state of New York had adopted its Constitution in 1777, and Article XXXVII thereof provided "that whereas the frauds too often practiced towards . . . Indians in contracts made for their lands, have in divers instances been productive of dangerous discontents and animosities; Be it ordained, that no purchases or contracts for the sale of lands made since the 14th day of October in the year of our Lord 1775, or which may hereafter be made with or of the said Indians within the lands of this State shall be binding on the said Indians or deemed valid unless made under the authority and with the consent of the Legislature of this State."

Oliver Phelps of Suffield, Massachusetts, had been engaged during the Revolutionary war in the commissary department of the army, and had been brought into business relations with Robert Morris, the great financier of Revolutionary times. Robert Morris had heard of

the rich Genesee lands from Major Adam Hoops, an officer in Sullivan's campaign against the Senecas in 1779, and doubtless also from Ebenezer Allen, an Indian trader residing in this region, who had visited Philadelphia on business and, in 1783, as an ambassador from the Six Nations to Congress. From Morris, Oliver Phelps obtained information which induced him to undertake a speculation, with some friends living in Berkshire, in a large part of the Massachusetts lands, but before his plans matured he found that he had been anticipated before the legislature by Nathaniel Gorham, of Charlestown, Massachusetts, the president of the Continental Congress during some of the years when the western cessions were before that body. The value of the Genesee lands and the privileges secured by the instrument of cession had drawn general attention to their desirability as an investment, and the cessation of Indian troubles in the region made them available for settlement.

Phelps and Gorham joined their interests, and, with their associates, Israel Chapin, William Walker, Judge Sullivan, and others, in 1787, made a proposition for the purchase of a million acres at one shilling and six pence per acre, payable in the public securities of the Commonwealth. This proposition was not accepted, but at the succeeding session of the legislature they proposed to purchase for the consideration of "three hundred thousand pounds in consolidated securities of the Commonwealth, or two thousand pounds specie together with two hundred and ninety thousand pounds in like securities, the right of pre-emption which the Commonwealth has in and to the Western Territory lately ceded by the State of New York." On March 31 the House of Representatives accepted the proposition, being at about one shilling per acre, on the terms of payment first mentioned, and agreed to sell to Phelps and Gorham

"All the right, title and demand which the said Commonwealth has in and to the said Western Territory by the deed of cession aforesaid . . . and the said Nathaniel Gorham and Oliver Phelps are hereby authorized to extinguish, by purchase, the claims of the native Indians holding the fee or right of soil in the territory aforesaid; and it is hereby

"*Resolved*, That the Rev. Mr. Samuel Kirkland . . is appointed to superintend and approve, at the expense of the said grantees, the purchase which the said Nathaniel Gorham and Oliver Phelps shall make of the claims of such native Indians; and it is hereby further

"*Resolved*, That all such purchases as the said Nathaniel Gorham

and Oliver Phelps shall make of the claims of the said Indians, in presence of the said superintendent, shall be confirmed by the Commonwealth, provided the said Gorham and Phelps shall give security to the satisfaction of the supreme Executive of this Commonwealth, separate obligations to pay the aforesaid consideration moneys to the treasurer of this Commonwealth, or his successor in office, for the use of this Commonwealth, one third thereof in one year, one other third thereof in two years, and one other third thereof in three years from the date of this resolve, with interest, in like consolidated securities, to commence from the date of this resolve, until paid."

The Senate concurred in this resolution on the next day, and Phelps and Gorham gave to the Commonwealth three bonds of one hundred thousand pounds each, payable at intervals of one year.

It may be stated here that the currencies of the states varied considerably in value. The pound sterling was worth $4.44\frac{4}{9}$; the pound of Massachusetts was worth $3.33\frac{1}{3}$; the pound of New York was worth 2.50; the pound of New Jersey and Pennsylvania was worth $2.66\frac{2}{3}$, and still another pound in use in some of the other states was worth $4.28\frac{4}{7}$. These variations in currency must be remembered in all calculations as to the money of the times. Phelps and Gorham therefore paid one million dollars at par for the six and one quarter million acres to which they proposed to complete title; but the price in reality was only sixty thousand pounds or two hundred thousand dollars, since the Massachusetts securities, ordinarily called "final settlement notes," were at this time worth only twenty per cent. of their face value.

It must be understood that Phelps and Gorham, throughout these transactions were the agents or trustees of all the associated speculators.

IX. The Lessees.

Before this purchase, another land company had been formed, with headquarters at Hudson, Columbia county, New York, under the name of the New York Genesee Land Company. It was composed of eighty persons, of whom ten owned half shares, and the remainder whole shares. In the list of these adventurers, we find the names of John Livingston, Peter Schuyler, Dr. Caleb Benton, Ezekiel Gilbert, Robert Troup, and others, and among them we find a state senator, the clerks of Albany and Columbia counties, seven members of Assembly, and other men of political, financial and social

influence. A more powerful body of men could hardly have been formed. With the intention of evading the constitutional provision above mentioned and of circumventing the state of Massachusetts, they obtained from the Six Nations, on November 30, 1787, for a bonus of twenty thousand dollars, a lease for nine hundred and ninety-nine years, of "all that certain tract or parcel of land, commonly called and known by the name of the lands of the Six Nations of Indians, situate, lying and being in the State of New York, and now in the actual possession of the Chiefs or Sachems of the Six Nations;" the yearly rent was two thousand Spanish milled dollars payable on July 4 of each year. On June 8, 1788, another lease was obtained from the Oneidas, demising a large tract of their lands, for a term of nine hundred and ninety-nine years, at a rent of one thousand dollars for the first ten years and increasing after that time by one hundred dollars annually until the sum reached fifteen hundred dollars, which was to remain the constant annual rent thereafter. In February, 1788, Livingston and Benton, by petition to the legislature, sought to secure the recognition of these leases, and presented a memorial from certain Indians asking that the leases be confirmed. The petition was rejected, and by concurrent resolution, on February 16, 1788, the legislature declared the leases to be equivalent to purchases and therefore void, and authorized the governor to use force, if necessary, to prevent the occupation of the Indian lands. The Massachusetts General Court also repudiated these Indian cessions. For some time after this a constant struggle continued between the lessees on one hand and the state on the other for predominant influence with the Indians. The lessees had agents in all the Indian towns; they were lavish in their presents, and unlimited rum was free to the poor natives. The adventurers stopped at nothing to baffle the state in its transactions with the Indians, hoping to force legislation in their favor, and, profiting by the example of Vermont, even proposed the formation of a new state out of the coveted territory. Their arrogance was so great, and their intrigues were so troublesome, as to lead to the arrest of one of the New York lessees, on the charge of treason; and at another time, finding one of them suspiciously present at a council, Governor Clinton, by summary process, ordered him to take himself away to a distance of forty miles.

On May 2, 1788, Livingston and his associates proposed a settlement of the difficulties by presenting to the New York Commissioners for holding Treaties with the Indians, a proposition to

obtain for the state a conveyance of all the Indian lands, in consideration of which the state was to repay the company the consideration money for which the Indians had executed the leases, and the state was to grant to Livingston and his associates one million one hundred thousand acres from the Indians' territory. The commissioners summarily rejected the proposition.

These lessees had formed some kind of alliance with another company called the Niagara Genesee Land Company, having its headquarters at Fort Niagara, and composed of Col. John Butler, of Wyoming fame, and at this time the British Deputy Superintendent for Indian affairs under Col. Guy Johnson; Col. Samuel Street, a prominent Indian trader at Fort Niagara; Capt. William Johnson, a British interpreter and an adopted Seneca with an Indian wife; Capt. John Powell, an English officer; one Murphy, also an Englishman, and Benjamin Barton, of New Jersey, who supplied the cattle for Fort Niagara. This Niagara Genesee Land Company had great influence with the Indians, both on account of the English partners and the fact that all of them, except Barton, had been long identified with the Indians either in military, business or social affairs. But all these schemes fell through, and disappointment caused a rupture between the two companies. On February 14, 1789, Bryan and Birdsall surrendered the leases to the Commissioners for holding Treaties with the Indians. In 1793 the legislature passed an act for the relief of the New York company and made a conveyance to them of certain lands in the northern part of the Military Tract.

X. The Purchase from the Indians.

While this unhappy condition of affairs existed, Oliver Phelps, with Israel Chapin and William Walker, came to Western New York. In May, 1788, after obtaining an agreement for the assistance of the New York Company and for a release of their alleged rights, Phelps made efforts to secure a council with the Six Nations for the purpose of purchasing their pre-emption right, but a council with Livingston and the Indians appointed to be held at Kanadesaga (Geneva) in June, was frustrated by the success of the Niagara company, assisted by Joseph Brant, in keeping the Indians at Buffalo Creek. Just at this time other large questions were being agitated among the Indians; ambassadors had been going backward and forward between the Six Nations and the western and southern tribes, and a large gathering of representatives had assembled at Buffalo Creek. Mr. Phelps,

about the middle of the month, went to Niagara and secured the co-operation of the Niagara Company. He then returned to Kanadesaga and remained there until, shortly before July 1, Red Jacket, Billy and Heap of Dogs came to Kanadesaga and guided Mr. Phelps, Mr. Lee and their companions to Buffalo Creek, which the party reached about July 4. Mr. Kirkland, the representative of Massachusetts, was already at the council place, having arrived on June 26. Livingston and others of the lessees were there and all of the Niagara company. The negotiations lasted several days. The Indians at first were unwilling to sell any of their lands, and yielded because Mr. Phelps had, by promising various tracts to the lessee companies, secured their active co-operation. Mr. Kirkland also received some land under an agreement dated in August, 1788, probably in payment of his services as required by the resolution of the legislature of March 31.

It is a tradition that the Indians at first refused to sell any lands west of the Genesee, but Mr. Phelps was most urgent in pressing upon them the necessity of a lot on the west side of the river for a mill site, and stated that a tract about twelve miles by twenty-four would be sufficient for the purpose, and proved the propriety of his request by showing the great benefit to the Indians which would be secured by having mills where their corn could be ground and their timber sawed. The Indians are said to have been surprised at the size of the mill lot, but finally acceded to the request, and executed a deed dated July 8, 1788, conveying to Oliver Phelps and Nathaniel Gorham territory described as follows: "Beginning in the north boundary line of the State of Pennsylvania, in the parallel of forty-two degrees north latitude, at a point distant eighty-two miles west from the north-east corner of Pennsylvania on Delaware river, as the said boundary line hath been run and marked by the commissioners appointed by the States of New York and Pennsylvania respectively, and from said point or place of beginning running west upon said line to a meridian which will pass through that corner or point of land made by the confluence of the Shanahasgwaikoreehi (so called) [Canaseraga Creek] with the waters of the Genesee river; thence running north along the said meridian to the corner or point last mentioned; thence northward along the waters of the said Genesee river to a point two miles north of Shanawageras Village, (so called) [near Avon]; thence running in a direction due west twelve miles; thence running in a direction northwardly so as to be twelve miles distant

from the most westward bends of said Genesee river to the shore of the Ontario lake; thence eastwardly along the shores of said lake to a meridian which will pass through the first point or place of beginning above mentioned; thence south along said meridian to the first point or place of beginning aforesaid, together with all and singular the woods, houses, streams, rivers, ponds, lakes, upon, within, and in any wise appertaining to said territory." This deed was signed by three Mohawks (Brant among them), three Oneidas, eight Onondagas, twenty-two Cayugas, seven female Governesses, and twenty-three Senecas, among whom were Farmer's Brother, Big Tree, Little Beard and Red Jacket, and the witnesses were Col. John Butler, Rev. Samuel Kirkland, superintendent of the sale for Massachusetts, James Dean, interpreter for the lessees, Elisha Lee of Boston (said to be Mr. Kirkland's assistant superintendent), Joseph Brant, Benjamin Barton, one of the Niagara lessees, David Smith and Ezekiel Scott.

To this deed Mr. Kirkland appended his certificate, as follows: "Pursuant to a resolution of the Legislature of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, passed March 30, 1788, I have attended a full and general treaty of the Five Nations of Indians at the chief village of their territory on Buffalo Creek, *alias* Teyoheghscolea, when the foregoing instrument or deed of conveyance made to the Hon. Nathaniel Gorham and Oliver Phelps, Esqs., of a certain part of the lands belonging to the said Five Nations, the description and boundaries thereof being particularly specified in the same, was duly executed, signed, sealed and delivered in my presence by the Sachems, Chiefs, and warriors of the above mentioned Five Nations, being fairly and properly understood and transacted by all the parties of Indians concerned and declared to be done to their universal satisfaction and content."

The consideration of this deed is not stated in it. We know it, however, from the proceedings had before Congress in December, 1790, and January, 1791, on the petition of Cornplanter, Half Town and Big Tree. They complained of great treachery by the lessees and false representations by Mr. Phelps, and alleged that Phelps had agreed to pay to the Indians ten thousand dollars in hand and one thousand dollars a year forever, but Mr. Phelps produced affidavits and proofs in reply to these assertions which showed without question that the consideration to be paid was five thousand dollars in hand one half immediately and one half a year later, and five hundred

dollars annually, one half in cattle and one half in cash. A long discussion as to the price occurred at the treaty, and it is said that the amount was left to Butler, Brant and Mr. Kirkland. Mr. Lee drew the papers after an agreement was reached, and when the deed was delivered, Mr. Phelps gave back a series of bonds for the several payments.[1]

On November 21, in the same year, the Massachusetts legislature confirmed to Phelps and Gorham all the right, title, claim and demand of the Commonwealth in the land conveyed by the Indian deed.

This was all the land of which Phelps and Gorham ever obtained the complete title. The remainder reverted to Massachusetts.

At Canandaigua, on August 4, 1789, the Mohawks, Onondagas, Cayugas and Tuscaroras, in confirmation of the former deed, and for the consideration of two thousand five hundred dollars in goods then paid (after having given to the Senecas the several proportions of the payment then due to the Five Nations), released to Phelps and Gorham all claims to the territory purchased by them at Buffalo Creek " and to all moneys, goods, or other payments whatsoever, due by said Phelps for said lands, except always reserving our just share and proportion of five hundred dollars, the annual rent to be paid for said lands forever."

XI. The First Survey.

The Phelps and Gorham Purchase measures very nearly eighty-five miles in length on the east line, and about forty-four and three fourths miles on the south line. It contains a little over two and one half million acres. Within its bounds are the counties of Ontario, Steuben and Yates, and greater or less parts of Monroe, Livingston, Wayne, Allegany and Schuyler. On January 27, 1789, Ontario county was erected, comprising all of New York state west of the pre-emption line. On March 18, 1796, Steuben county was erected from Ontario. On March 30, 1802, Genesee county was erected from Ontario and Steuben, and embraced all of the state west of the Genesee river, and the line running south from the forks. On April 7, 1806, Allegany was erected; on February 23, 1821, Livingston and

[1]At the council at Buffalo Creek, the lessees consented to the conveyance to Phelps and Gorham and took a new lease, dated July 9, from the Indians at a reduced rental, covering all the territory formerly demised excepting the premises sold outright to the "Bostonians."

This lease I find only in O'Reilly's "Sketches of Rochester," page 129.

Monroe; on February 5, 1823, Yates; on April 11, 1823, Wayne, and on April 17, 1854, Schuyler.

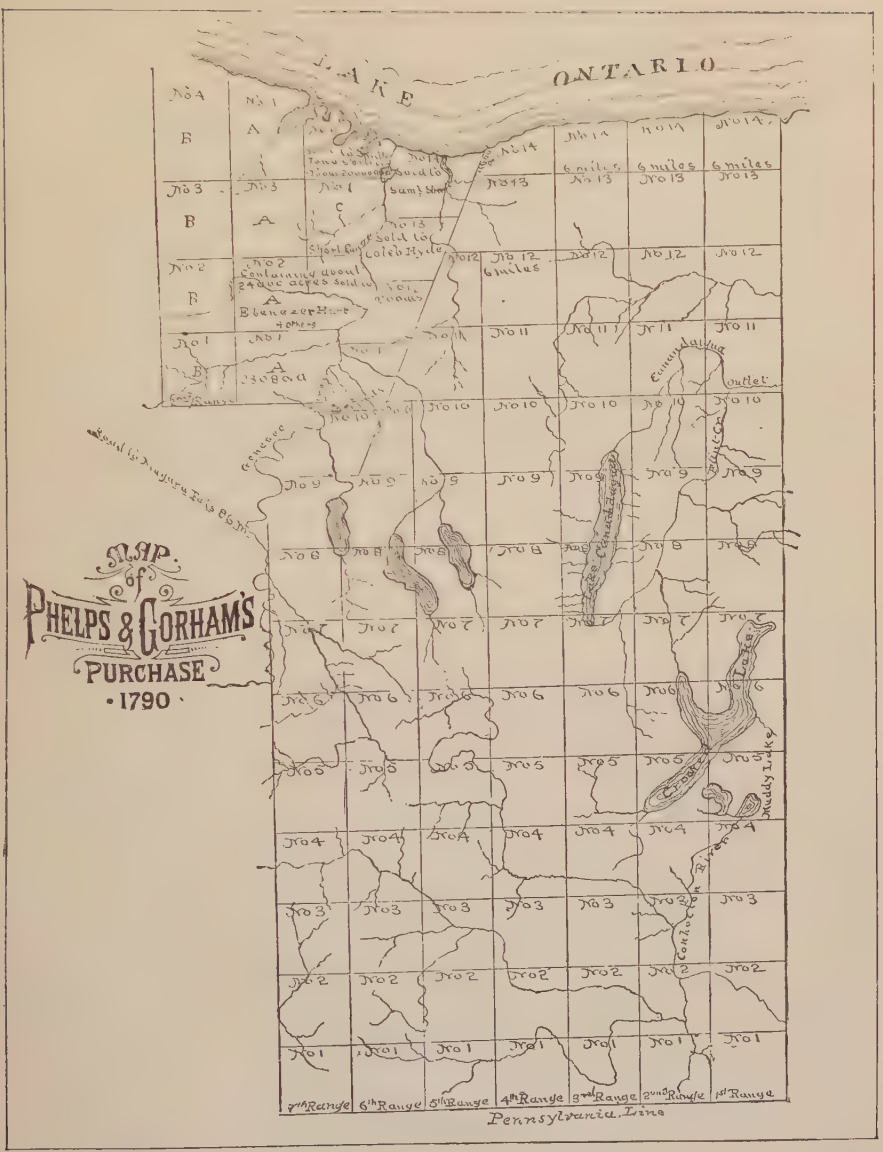
Phelps took immediate and active steps toward opening the land for settlement and had brought Col. Hugh Maxwell with him to make a survey of the purchase. This survey was begun in the latter part of July, 1788, and was completed in 1789. On October 17, 1788, Mr. Kirkland, at the request of the Indians, set the stake at the great fork of the Genesee, thus fixing the division line between the lands sold and those remaining to the Indians. The survey of the east or "pre-emption" line was first made by Maxwell and several assistants, of whom one, it has been said, was interested in behalf of certain of the lessees who had made a settlement at the head of Seneca lake at Kanadesaga (Geneva). Dr. Benton already lived at this place. Consequently it was in the interest of the lessees to exclude the site of Geneva from the lands included in the survey. The instruments used in running the line were quite crude, and the line veered materially toward the west and had also a suspicious westward inclination in it on the east side of Seneca lake, which was said to have been made while Maxwell was away from the seat of operations to obtain supplies. The line then trended eastward until about opposite Kanadesaga, when it resumed a proper course. (See Plates III. and IV.) The west line of the Mill Tract was wrong also: instead of running, from the point twelve miles west of the Genesee, approximately parallel to the general direction of the river, it ran due north from that point to the lake. Plate II. is a reduced reproduction of a map of Maxwell's survey, and shows the error in the Mill Tract; on it the old pre-emption line appears straight and does not touch Seneca lake.

Upon this survey that part of this tract east of the Genesee river was divided into lots, called townships, each six miles square, and numbered from one to fourteen, beginning at the Pennsylvania line, and arranged in seven ranges, numbering consecutively westward from the pre-emption line. Toward the mouth of the Genesee some deviation from this exact division became necessary. On the west side of the river the Mill Tract was divided into a short range containing two townships, and two other ranges containing four townships each. (See Plate II.)

XII. The Sale to Robert Morris.

Phelps and Gorham had bought these lands at a time when the

PLATE II.


LAKE ONTARIO
MAP
of
PHELPS & GORHAM'S
PURCHASE
1790
7th Range
6th Range
5th Range
4th Range
3rd Range
2nd Range
1st Range
Pennsylvania Line
Canandaigua Outlet
Seneca Lake
Conhocton River
Muddy Lakes

"consolidated securities" of Massachusetts were worth only four shillings in the pound, or twenty per cent. of their face value. At this rate the price of their purchase, at three hundred thousand pounds, would have been equal to two hundred thousand dollars only. The policy of Alexander Hamilton in procuring the general government to assume the debts of the several states, caused a rise in the value of the securities of Massachusetts, among others, and, by the time the first payment was due by Phelps and Gorham, the securities had risen nearly to par, and the proprietors became unable to pay their bond. The debt was afterward compromised at thirty-one thousand pounds, or one hundred and nine thousand, three hundred and thirty-three dollars; the land bought of the Indians being estimated at one third of the original amount bought from the Commonwealth. Consequently, in 1790, they applied to their old friend Morris, and he, having already embarked in extensive land speculations, purchased the unsold territory, August 10, 1790, and took from them a deed which bears date November 18, of the same year. In this deed Phelps and Gorham reserved two townships for themselves: No. 10, of the 3d range (including the site of Canandaigua), and No. 9, of the 7th range. The expressed consideration is nominal —five Mexican dollars. The whole purchase is said in this deed to contain about two million one hundred thousand acres.

XIII. The Second Survey.

At the time of this purchase it had been discovered and was recognized that Col. Maxwell's survey was incorrect, both as to the eastern or pre-emption line, and as to the Mill Tract, and Phelps and Gorham agreed to make an accurate resurvey of the whole tract. The deed to Morris, so far as it concerns the Mill Tract, recites: "A manifest error has been committed in the laying out and dividing the same, so that a new survey must be had in order to correct the said error."

In 1791 and 1792 Adam Hoops, as superintendent, with Frederick Saxton, John Adlum, Augustus Porter and others, made a new and careful survey of the whole Phelps and Gorham Purchase, while Benjamin Ellicott ran the new pre-emption line as the true eastern boundary. According to the "Return of Survey," made February 4, 1793, Major Hoops found the land actually conveyed to Morris to have a net area of one million two hundred and sixty-four thousand, five hundred and sixty-nine acres, one rood and ten perches. This

"return" has endorsed upon it a certificate of settlement, stating that Robert Morris had agreed to pay Phelps and Gorham for the surplus of land conveyed over one million acres, at the rate of eight pence half penny, Massachusetts currency, per acre. At this rate, which is believed to be the price paid for the whole, the land cost very nearly one hundred and fifty thousand dollars.

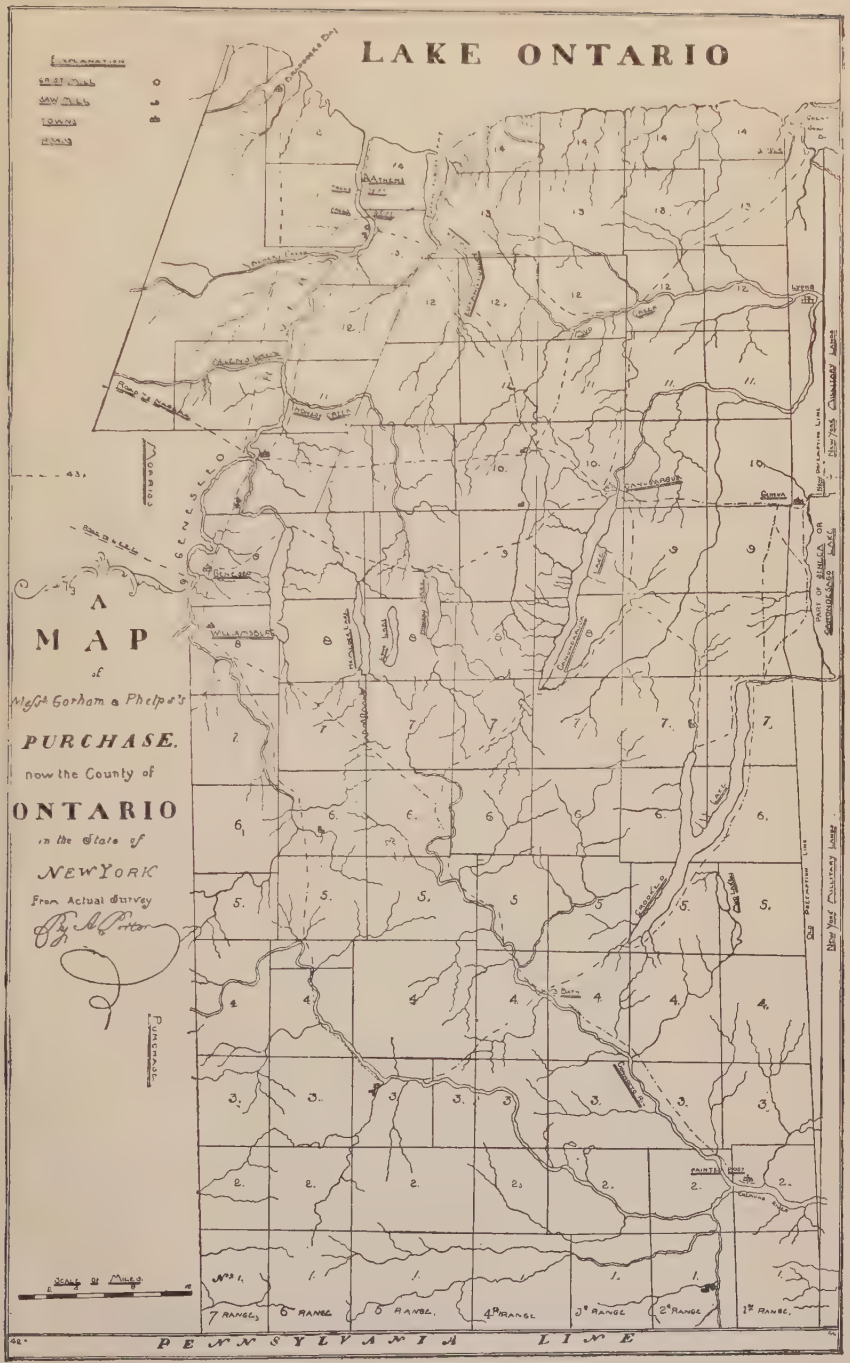
The errors in the first survey were now shown to have been the inclusion of about eighty-seven thousand acres too much in the Mill Tract, west of the Genesee river, and the exclusion of about eighty-four thousand acres lying between the old and new pre-emption lines. The new line ran about as far east of Geneva as the old line had been to the west, and parts of Sodus bay and Seneca lake were found to be within this tract. Plate III. is a reduced reproduction of the map of this survey, made by Augustus Porter.

XIV. The Sale by Morris to the London Associates. Charles Williamson.

Robert Morris, immediately after obtaining title, prepared to dispose of these lands and instructed his European agents to offer them for sale. Within a few months his London agent, William Temple Franklin, announced that he had sold them to a company of Englishmen, consisting of Sir William Pulteney, William Hornby and Patrick Colquhoun, all gentlemen of means and high position. The interest of Pulteney was nine-twelfths; of Hornby, two-twelfths, and of Colquhoun, one-twelfth.

At this time aliens could not legally hold title to lands in New York, and the associates sent to America as their agent a Scotchman of vast energy and great ambition. Charles Williamson reached Baltimore early in June, 1792, and, visiting Mr. Morris at Philadelphia, learned the requirements of the situation. He was naturalized under the United States law of March 26, 1790, by taking the necessary oath in open court on January 9, 1792, before Joseph Yeates, one of the justices of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania. Three months later, by deed dated April 11, 1792, Robert Morris and Mary his wife, conveyed the premises to Mr. Williamson for the consideration of seventy-five thousand pounds sterling money of Great Britain, equivalent to three hundred and thirty-three thousand, three hundred thirty three dollars and thirty-three cents, specie. Mr. Morris's profit in the transaction was therefore over one hundred and sixty thousand dollars.

PLATE III.


LAKE ONTARIO
A
MAP
of
West Gorham & Phelps's
PURCHASE.
now the County of
ONTARIO
in the State of
NEW YORK
From Actual Survey
By A. Porter
Scale of Miles
No 1.
7 RANGE
6 RANGE
5 RANGE
4th RANGE
3d RANGE
2d RANGE
1st RANGE
PENNSYLVANIA LINE

Williamson, in fact, though not in form, took and held the title as agent or trustee of the London associates, and drew upon them for the enormous and even extravagant expenses which he afterward incurred to make roads and to otherwise improve the lands, to induce and even import settlers, to attract attention to the property, and to speculate in other lands.

One of his early efforts was to settle the title to the Gore between the old and the new pre-emption lines. The state of New York, owning the Military Tract next west of the Phelps and Gorham Purchase, had assumed Maxwell's survey to be correct and had granted patents for lands within the Gore. Settlements were made partly with Williamson and partly with Robert Troup, his successor in the management of this property, by conveying to these agents state lands, around Sodus bay and in the mile strip along the Niagara river, of much greater area than the lands for which this compensation was made. Williamson, in 1793, took possession of about sixteen thousand acres in and around Geneva, and in 1800 John Livingston (the chief of the lessees) and Thomas Maule, who had received patents for this land, procured from the state fifty thousand acres each in settlement of their "rights."

Under an act of March 24, 1795, and another of April 6, 1796, and a certificate of the surveyor general made pursuant thereto, April 7, 1796, the state accepted the pre-emption line as run by Benjamin Ellicott as the eastern boundary line of the lands ceded to Massachusetts.

Mr. Williamson's energy and enterprises led him on until his expenses became so great that his principals, in 1800, refused to pay further drafts upon them and asked him to withdraw from his agency, and instructed him to divide the property between Pulteney, Hornby and Colquhoun, according to their several interests, and offered him thirty thousand pounds sterling, and twelve thousand acres of land at cost if he would convey the lands as requested free from incumbrance. Williamson could not accept these terms but attempted a division of a part of the premises by conveying, on December 13, 1800, to each of his principals a tract of land, on condition of their making certain payments to him amounting in all to two hundred and seventy-five thousand dollars.

Before this time, and on April 2, 1798, the New York legislature had passed "An Act to enable aliens to purchase and hold real estate," making valid all conveyances to them or by them, requiring

every conveyance made pursuant to the act to be recorded in the office of the secretary of state within twelve months from its date and providing that the act should be in force for three years and no longer. This law was amended by the act of April 5, 1798, and was explained by the act of March 15, 1819. This act was soon to expire and it became important to obtain deeds from Williamson for the remainder of the tract. Sir William Pulteney retained Robert Troup, an eminent lawyer of New York city, to complete the transaction. Williamson's numerous creditors were now pressing him hard, and, as he was helpless, there was great danger of executions being levied on the lands. Mr. Troup now succeeded in inducing Williamson to execute deeds of the remaining lands to Sir William Pulteney. These deeds were dated March 31, 1801, two days before the enabling act expired, and were placed in escrow in the hands of Mr. Troup until it could be learned whether Sir William would accept the terms offered by Mr. Williamson, in substance, to-wit: To pay him eighty-nine thousand dollars, to pay his debts to the amount of about two hundred and twenty-five thousand dollars, including certain mortgages, and to release him from all claims then existing. Sir William, after some wavering, accepted the proposition and gave to Williamson his obligations, dated July 23, 1801, agreeing to the terms imposed and to secure their performance. The deeds of March 31 were recorded in the office of the secretary of state on October 21, 1801.

The lands and securities conveyed by Mr. Williamson to his principals in this settlement were valued at a little more than three and one half million dollars, and of these Sir William received about six-sevenths.

It is unfortunate that Mr. Williamson's letters, accounts and papers have been in great part lost and destroyed, so that few sources remain from which to prepare the biography of this remarkable man. The story of his life would form perhaps the most important chapter in the history of the settlement of Western New York.

Since the deed last mentioned the Phelps and Gorham Purchase has been commonly called the "Pulteney Estate."

The Hornby and Colquhoun estates were so small, as compared with the Pulteney Estate, that they are not followed further.

Plate IV. is a map showing the tract as it was between 1802 and 1806. This is a reduced fac-simile of the rare original and is the most correct map of the Phelps and Gorham Purchase.

XV. The Pulteney Estate—The Real Estate Branch.

Sir William Pulteney died May 28, 1805, intestate, leaving Henrietta Laura, Countess of Bath, his only child and heir-at-law. She died July 14, 1808, without issue, intestate as to the real estate in America, but leaving a will, dated November 5, 1794, disposing of her personal estate. Her American real estate descended to Sir John Lowther Johnstone, her cousin and heir-at-law, who was the only son of the eldest brother of Sir William Pulteney; the name of the latter had been originally Johnstone and had been changed upon his marriage into the Pulteney family.

Under an act of the legislature, passed January 26, 1821, the testimony respecting the title of the Pulteney Estate was perperpetuated under exemplification from the Court of Chancery, witnesses being examined under an order made and interrogatories approved by Chancellor Kent. On November 28, 1821, an order was entered by the chancellor that the depositions taken, in his opinion, furnished "good prima facie evidence of the facts therein set forth." Sir John Lowther Johnstone died in December, 1811, leaving a will executed August 7, of the same year. This will was proved in the Supreme Court, January 3, 1820, under the law of February 20, 1801. By this will these lands were devised to Ernest Augustus, Duke of Cumberland and afterward king of Hanover; Charles Herbert Pierrepoint, Viscount Newark; David Cathcart, afterward Lord Alloway, and Masterton Ure, as trustees to sell and convert the same into money and to apply the proceeds, first, in payment of the decedent's debts and the remainder in purchasing real estate in Scotland. The will also gave the trustees and the survivor or survivors the power to appoint and substitute new trustees, and declared that where there were four existing trustees the acts of three of them should be valid, and when there were but three the acts of two should be valid.

The only changes which have taken place in this title since the death of Sir John Lowther Johnstone are the substitutions of trustees.

On the first of March, 1819, Pierrepoint, by the title of Earl Manvers, relinquished his trust and by deed of that date conveyed to his co-trustees all his interest in the estates. On November 19, 1827, the remaining trustees, by deed of that date, appointed John Gordon a co-trustee in the place of Earl Manvers, and conveyed to him a joint interest in the lands.

The death of Ernest Augustus, king of Hanover, occurred on November 18, 1851, and that of David Cathcart, on April 26, 1829.

These facts were proved by commission executed pursuant to chapter 161 of the laws of 1860. On the first of June, 1851, by deed of that date, Masterton Ure and John Gordon, the surviving trustees, conveyed all the interest of Gordon in the trust estates in question, to the Earl of Craven, Alexander Oswald and Edmund Bucknall Estcourt, and on April 4, 1859, Masterton Ure made a deed releasing his interest as trustee to Craven, Oswald and Estcourt. The Earl of Craven died on the 25th of August, 1866, and proof of the fact was made under commission in the following year. On November 12, 1867, Oswald and Estcourt, by deed, released the trust estates to Henry C. Howard (Viscount Andover), George C. K. Johnstone, Henry Chaplin and James R. Farquharson.

XVI. The Pulteney Estate—The Personal Estate Branch.

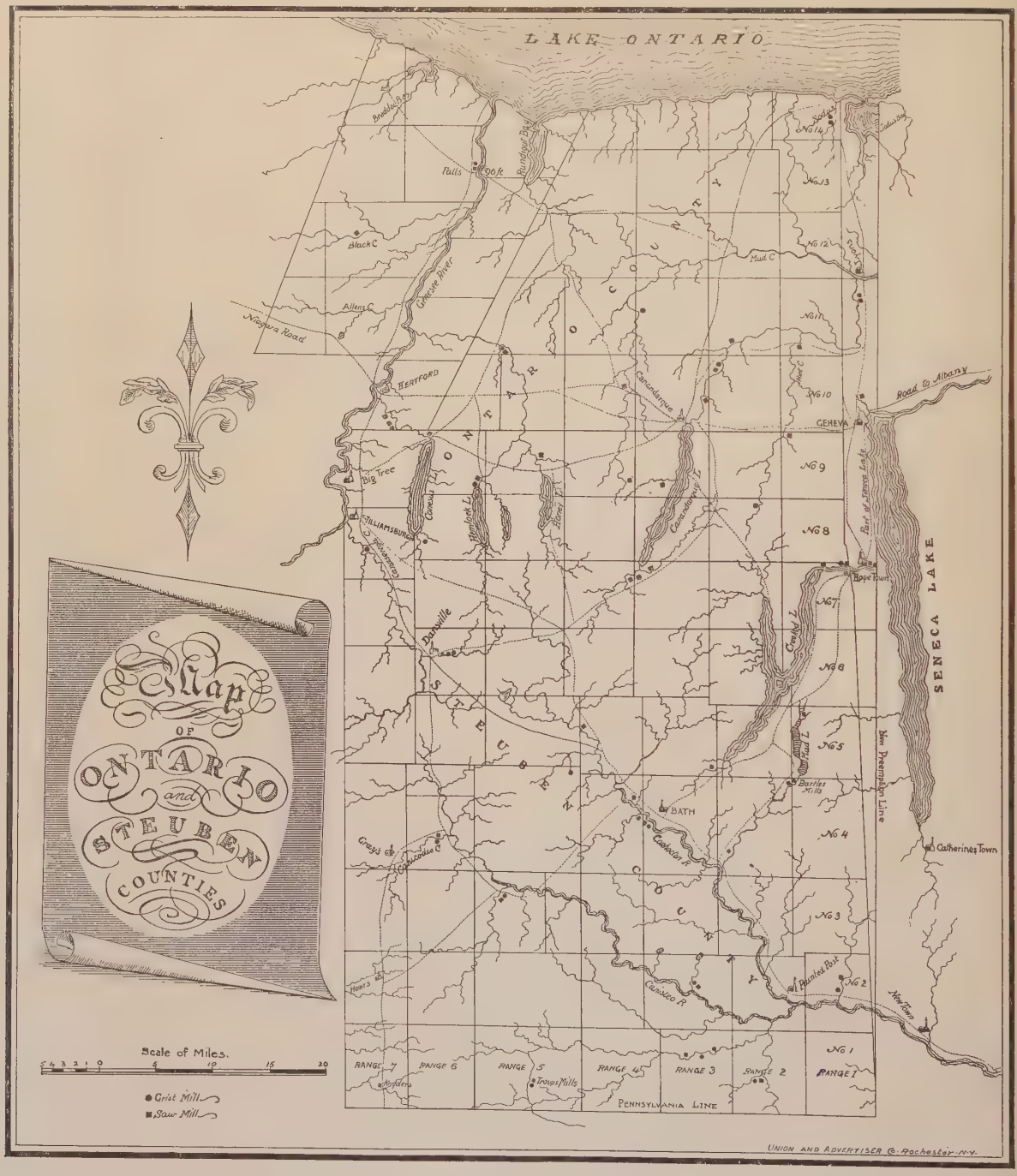
On the death of the Countess of Bath, her personal property, according to her will, was bequeathed in trust, for Mrs. Elizabeth Evelyn Markham and her children. Among the effects thus bequeathed, were the moneys arising from contracts for the sale of the Pulteney Estate lands, made before the will took effect, besides certain bonds and mortgages. The proceeds were paid over to Mrs. Markham, who afterward married John Pulteney. Mrs. Elizabeth Markham Pulteney died March 18, 1856, bequeathing this property to her son, the Rev. Richard Thomas Pulteney Pulteney, and thereupon the executors of the will of the Countess of Bath, in June, 1856, conveyed to Mr. Pulteney Pulteney all the property held by them and forming a part of the estate of the Countess of Bath, situate in America; and by deed dated September 10, 1862, the trustees under the will of Sir John Lowther Johnstone conveyed to the same person the title to the lands at that time affected by the contracts above mentioned. In June, 1874, the Rev. Mr. Pulteney Pulteney died and left a will devising and bequeathing his estates to Maximilian H. Dallison and Alfred Markley, in trust for his wife during her life and his children after her death.

The Pulteney estates having been divided, as above described, at the death of the Countess of Bath, the main or real estate branch has since that time been commonly called the Johnstone Branch, and the personal estate has been commonly called the Pulteney Branch.

XVII. The Agents of the Pulteney Estate.

In the year 1801 Robert Troup succeeded Charles Williamson, as

PLATE IV.



UNION AND ADVERTISER Co. Rochester, N.Y.

agent for the management of the estates. In 1832 Robert Troup died and Joseph Fellows succeeded him, and in 1859 William Young was appointed agent jointly with him. In 1862 Benjamin F. Young was appointed the attorney for the real estate branch, and still retains the agency, with an office at Bath, N. Y.

With respect to the personal or Pulteney branch, Robert Troup at first, and Joseph Fellows, for some time jointly with Troup, held the agency until 1862, when Joseph Fellows became the sole manager, and in the same year Edward Kingsland, of Geneva, became joined with Mr. Fellows. In 1871 Mr. Fellows retired, and Mr. Kingsland has since that time had the full agency. These agents have appointed sub-agents as convenient.

At the present time there is very little property remaining undisposed of in either branch of the estate.

The Pulteney estate has been subjected to much litigation, and to several attacks in the legislature. The limits of this article will not permit a discussion of these matters. It will be sufficient to say that in every case the title has been upheld.

NOTE.—Acknowledgment must be made of the courtesy of Mr. George H. Harris, the well known investigator of the early history of this region, in permitting the use of the electrotype plate of the map by Augustus Porter (Plate III). It is a reduction from the rare original in his possession, and first appeared in Mr. Conover's "The Genesee Tract." Further acknowledgment is also made of the kindness of Messrs. Scrantom & Wetmore, for the use of the plate for printing Maxwell's Map of 1790 (Plate II.), which appeared in Mrs. Parker's "Rochester, a Story Historical," published by them. Mr. G. S. Conover has given most important assistance to the writer.

It is believed that the three rare maps of the Phelps and Gorham Purchase are here brought together for the first time.

XVIII. BIBLIOGRAPHY.

GENERAL HISTORY.

Bancroft, George. History of the United States. 6 vols., 8vo., New York, 1888.

Hildreth, Richard. History of the United States. 6 vols., 8vo., New York, 1880.

Curtis, George T. History of the . . . Constitution of the United States . . . 2 vols., 8vo., N. Y., 1854–1858.

Winsor, Justin (Editor). Narrative and Critical History of America. 8 vols., Royal 8vo., Boston, 1886–1889.

Wilson, James G., and Fiske, John. Appleton's Cyclopædia of American Biography. 6 vols., Royal 8vo., New York, 1887–1889.

THE CHARTERS.

Poore, Ben. Perley (Compiler). The Federal and State Constitutions, Colonial Charters and Organic Laws of the United States. 2 vols., Royal 8vo., Washington, 1877.

Marshall, Orsamus H. The Historical Writings of the late Orsamus H. Marshall. 8vo., Albany, 1887 (containing "The New York Charters of 1664 and 1674").

Massachusetts and Connecticut.

Palfrey, John G. History of New England. 5 vols., Royal 8vo., Boston, 1884–1890.

General History of New York.

Smith, William. History of New York. 8vo., Albany, 1814.

Broadhead, John R. History of the State of New York. 2 vols., 8vo., New York, 1871–4.

Macauley, James. The Natural, Statistical and Civil History of the State of New York. 3 vols., 8vo., New York, 1829.

O'Callaghan, E. B. The Documentary History of the State of New York. 4 vols., 8vo., Albany, 1849–1851.

Broadhead, John R., and Fernow, B. Documents Relative to the Colonial History of the State of New York. 14 vols., 4to., Albany, 1856–1883.

Special Histories.

Collections of the New York Historical Society for the year 1870 (Vol. III. of the Publication fund series). 8vo. New York, 1871. (Containing "State of the Evidence and Argument in support of the Territorial Rights and Jurisdiction of New York against the Government of New Hampshire, and the claimants under it, and against the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. By James Duane, one of the Agents and Commissioners appointed by the Legislature to manage those Controversies." Pages 1–144).

Bowen, Clarence W. The Boundary Disputes of Connecticut. 4to. Boston, 1882.

The Connecticut Gore Title, Stated and Considered. 12mo. Hartford, 1799.

Report of the Regents of the University on the Boundaries of the State of New York. 2 vols. 8vo. Vol, 1, Albany, 1874. Vol. 2, Albany, 1884.

Report of the Regents' Boundary Commission upon the New York and Pennsylvania Boundary. 8vo. Albany, 1886.

Hough, Franklin B. (Editor). Proceedings of the Commissioners of Indian Affairs. . . . With an introduction and notes. 2 vols., 4to., Albany, 1861.

American State papers, Indian Affairs. 2 vols., folio, Washington, 1832–1834.

Report of Special Committee to Investigate the Indian Problem of the State of New York. 8vo., Albany, 1889.

Turner, Orsamus. Pioneer History of the Holland Purchase of Western New York. 8vo., Buffalo, 1849.

Turner, Orsamus. History of the Pioneer Settlement of Phelps and Gorham's Purchase and Morris' Reserve ; Embracing the Counties of Monroe, Ontario, Livingston, Yates, Steuben, most of Wayne and Allegany, and parts of Orleans, Genesee and Wyoming, to which is added a Supplement or Extension of the Pioneer History of Monroe County. 8vo., Rochester, 1851.

Turner, Orsamus. History of the Pioneer Settlement of Phelps and Gorham's Purchase and Morris' Reserve. To which is added a Supplement or Continuation of the Pioneer History of Ontario, Wayne, Livingston, Yates and Allegany. 8vo., Rochester, 1852.

McMaster, Guy H. History of the Settlement of Steuben County, N. Y., Including Notices of the Old Pioneer Settlers and their Adventures. 12mo., Bath, 1853.

Doty, Lockwood L. A History of Livingston County, New York. 8vo., Geneseo, 1876.

Young, Andrew W. History of Chautauqua County, New York. 8vo., Buffalo, 1875.

Ketchum, William. An Authentic and Comprehensive History of Buffalo. 2 vols., 8vo., Buffalo. 1865.

Chapman, Isaac A. A Sketch of the History of Wyoming. 12mo., Wilkesbarre, Pa., 1830.

Miner, Charles. History of Wyoming. . . 8vo., Philadelphia, 1845.

Sparks, Jared. The Library of American Biography. Vol. 25. (containing the Life of the Rev. Samuel Kirkland.) 12mo., Boston, 1848.

Conover, George S. Early History of Geneva (Pamphlet). 8vo., Geneva, 1880.

Conover, George S. The Genesee Tract (Pamphlet). 8vo., Geneva, 1889.

O'Reilly, Henry. Sketches of Rochester. With incidental notices of Western New York. 8vo., Rochester, 1838.

Peck, William F. Semi-Centennial History of Rochester. 4to., Syracuse, 1884. (The first fifteen chapters are by Mr. George H. Harris).

Parker, Jenny Marsh. Rochester, A Story Historical. 8vo., Rochester, 1884.

In the Court of Chancery—Between Sir John L. Johnstone, complainant, and Sir James Pulteney, Sir Thomas Jones, Christopher Codrington, Robert Troup, Mary Foster and Andrew Craigie, defendants. Case both on the part of the complainants and of the defendants. Geneva. Printed by James Bogert, n. d. pp. 20. (Loaned by Mr. George S. Conover.)

Appeal books, briefs and opinions in

1. The People of the State of New York vs. Alonzo Snyder. 41 N. Y. 397.
2. Howard vs. Moot. 64 N. Y. 262.
3. Duke of Cumberland vs. Codrington. 3 Johns. Ch. 229.

And opinion in

4. Duke of Cumberland vs. Graves, 3 Seld. 305.

III.—THREE EPISODES IN THE HISTORY OF THE GENESEE VALLEY.[1]

By George Moss.

Aside from the visit of La Salle to the Genesee Valley in 1669, the expedition to this point of Denonville against the Senecas in 1687, the brilliant campaign of Sullivan in Western New York in 1779, and other prominent incidents in the history of this locality, there are three important epochs in the development of the "Genesee country" which deserve more attention than they commonly receive either from students of history or modern historians. The apparent indifference manifested toward the trio of events forming the basis of this paper is, however, readily accounted for. It is clearly the result of restricted, and, in some cases, obscure data concerning those events, and, in truth, is more apparent than real, since — if the facts in the premises were as easily attainable — they would be as widely known and as frequently commented upon as any of the achievements of peace or war distinguishing the early years of occupation or settlement here.

Episode No. 1.

In 1759— more than a decade of years before the revolt of the American colonies against the rule of Great Britain, and at least a quarter of a century before the white settlement of the fertile region of which Rochester is now the metropolis — M. Pouchot, *Chevalier de l'ordre Royal et Militaire de St. Louis, ancien Capitaine du Regiment de Béarn*, was French commandant of Fort Niagara, where he and his troops were, in July of that year, defeated and dispossessed by the British under Sir William Johnson and Gen. Prideaux. Returning to France, M. Pouchot shortly afterward wrote and his friends had published in three goodly volumes a "Memoir upon the Late War in North America, between the French and English, 1755–60, followed by observations upon the theater of actual war and by new details concerning the manners and customs of the Indians; with topographical maps." In 1866 the late Dr. Franklin B. Hough, of Lowville, Lewis county, this state, found a stray copy of this valuable work in the library of Harvard university, and, by permission, translated it into English and published a limited but

[1]Read before the Rochester Historical Society January 4, 1889.

handsome edition—in two volumes—with additional notes and illustrations. Dr. Hough, in his preface, says: "The memoirs bear conclusive evidence of having been written in a spirit of candor and truth, and being chiefly founded upon personal observation." M. Pouchot, he continues, was "an honest, brave, and energetic officer, inspired with honorable ambition and an earnest zeal for the success of the French arms. . . . Although this work has been in the hands of historians engaged upon the special period to which it relates, it is scarcely known in our public libraries, or in private collections of American history." The French edition was published in Switzerland in 1781—fourteen years after the author's death. "It is probable," says Dr. Hough, "that some restriction of government upon publications of this class may have occasioned its issue beyond the limits of France." M. Pouchot held distinguished rank among the intrepid French defenders of Canada against the English. The Marquis of Vaudreuil, in 1761 governor of New France, certified that Senor Pouchot conducted himself in the different commands at Fort Niagara and elsewhere "with all the sagacity, zeal, intelligence and economy of an accomplished officer." With the general topics of his "Memoirs" this paper, however, has little to do; it will be restricted to quotations referring particularly to the section of country traversed by our famous river, and to notes upon the topographical charts and engravings contained in Dr. Hough's translated work. In the text M. Pouchot calls the Genesee river the *Casconchiagon*. In his map the word is hyphenated and spelled *Cas-con-chacon*. Irondequoit bay is pictured under the name of "Baye and Fort des Sables." Just before the Genesee enters Lake Ontario, three falls (les 3 chutes) are designated on the map. The series of lakes in Western and Central New York are shown, but none are named except *Kanentagon* (Canandaigua) and *Goyogoin* (Cayuga). An Indian village, styled on the map "Anjageen," is located on the present Honeoye creek, probably in the neighborhood of East Rush or Honeoye Falls. Trails lead through it and also from the Allegany and upper Genesee rivers to Niagara falls. The same map also shows lakes Ontario and Erie, the St. Lawrence river and Thousand Islands, the Hudson, Delaware and Susquehanna rivers, and the mountain ranges, and gives a fairly correct topographical view of the whole of this state and most of Pennsylvania, together with a narrow strip of Canada abutting the two lakes named. Of the several routes of communication between Canada and the English colonies in Virginia, &c., M. Pouchot names as

fourth in importance that by the river *Casconchiagon*. He finds at its mouth, however, a harbor of sufficient size and depth, but a bad bar at the entrance. I quote: "This river has a much longer course into the interior than any other on this coast. It has three falls with banks on the sides almost as fine as those of Niagara. They enter the Baye des Sables to begin the navigation of the *Casconchiagon*. There is a portage of three leagues (presumably to a point above the Rapids), which is the most convenient route. . . . The Fort des Sables is only some high banks of sand, which are found around the bay of this name. It is three leagues in depth, with a good depth of water. Beyond this bay the land as far as the foot of the *Rideau des Cotes* [high falls, now in the heart of the city of Rochester, and doubtless so called from their resemblance to side curtains formed by the falls and divided by a small island where the recently burned lantern works stood] is very low and marshy and the wood thick. . . . The bay of *Casconchiagon* [Charlotte] would be very good for the anchorage of vessels, but its entrance is difficult on account of a bar. If the country were inhabited we might still make a very convenient passage. . . . At present the navigation [of the upper Genesee] is only made in bark canoes. It would be necessary to have bateaux in reserve above the falls, where the water is deep enough and the currents gentle. The falls [and here M. Pouchot quotes from Charlevoix] are three in number; the first 60 feet high and 2 arpents wide, the third 100 feet high and 3 arpents wide; the second is much less considerable. This river has no portages but those marked on the map. It traverses the whole country of the Five Nations, and communicates with the Ohio by a little lake, the waters of which in part fall into the *Casconchiagon*, and in part into the Ohio. . . . Near this lake is a bituminous oil spring of considerable size, [petroleum.] . . . The navigation of this river would be much more considerable if these countries should come to be inhabited by Europeans. . . . The banks of the *Casconchiagon* and of the Canestio are the parts chiefly inhabited by the Senecas, which are the most numerous of the Five Nations. The whole country along these rivers is beautiful and fertile. . . . Their [Indian] villages are near the lakes, where we find meadows forming landscapes of the most charming kind, and lands which would be most admirable to cultivate."

In Dr. Hough's translation is inserted a map of the country of the Six Nations by Sir Guy Johnson, prepared in 1771. It names the Genesee, "Little Senecas river;" Braddock's bay, "Prideaux bay;"

Irondequoit, "Adiarundaquat bay;" Sodus, "Aserotus bay;" Canandaigua, "Canadanigey." It marks the Indian path from above the Rapids to Irondequoit bay; locates the present site of Geneseo under the name of *Chenussio*, and indicates a trail from the latter place, through Canawaugus, to Fort Schlosser, above Niagara falls. All the country between the Genesee river and where Buffalo has since grown into respectable proportions is described as "never having been surveyed or even thoroughly explored. It is chiefly laid down," says Sir Guy, "from my journals and the sketches of intelligent Indians and other persons." Seneca and Cayuga lakes are each given a place, with a note that "there are more lakes hereabouts, but they cannot be laid down with certainty."

Geneseo was an important Indian village in M. Pouchot's time, and the savages were friendly toward the French commandant, a fact which Sir William Johnson confirms in MSS. found in the latter's collection. Sir William tells of an Indian trader who had been "among those Indians of *Chenussio* alias Senekas," and says, "he thinks most of the Indians living at *Chenussio* will join the French; . . . that he had seen several English scalps in said Castle, and that Jean Cour and four Frenchmen came to *Chenussio* last October; that he was also at the Seneca castle called *Gannyhsadagy*, where he desired no English should be suffered to trade or build." *Chenussio* appears indeed to have been an important stopping place between Niagara and Pennsylvania for both savage and civilized warriors a century and a quarter ago.

In the translated "Memoirs" are engravings of the falls of the Genesee. They are reduced from originals produced by Mazell, the celebrated London artist who lived and flourished during the latter half of the eighteenth century. Two of Mazell's originals are in possession of the writer of this paper, and are fine specimens of the artistic skill of those days. In size they are about 2½ by 3 feet, and are in an excellent state of preservation. One is a faithful sketch of the lower falls, and the other portrays the center fall, a few rods above. In fine copperplate text at the bottom of the engravings it is set forth that they are views of cataracts "on the Casconchiagon or little Senecas River on Lake Ontario," giving the height, etc., and stating that they were drawn "on ye spot and published as ye law directs by T. Davies, Capt. Lieut in ye Royal Regiment of Artillery. Mazell, sculpt." This Capt. Davies was evidently in Sir Wm. Johnson's command, and made the sketches while on his way to fight M. Pouchot at Fort Niagara.

The river then was wooded to the brink, and presented a most picturesque appearance.

Episode No. 2.

In 1790 Viscomte de Chateaubriand, one of the most distinguished of French authors, visited North America, and called upon General Washington, to whom he had letters of presentation. Afterward, he made a trip to Niagara falls, and details his experiences and impressions during the journey in the seventh volume of his complete works, entitled "Voyage en Amerique." Leaving Philadelphia, where, by the way, the president then lived, it being the seat of the Federal government, he came to New York, thence up the Hudson to Albany, and from there to Onondaga, where he was hospitably entertained by the chief of the savages. Continuing his trip through the primeval forest toward Niagara falls — of which his book contains perhaps the best engraving of the famous cataract ever produced — he says he could scarcely trace the route by reason of *des abatis d'arbres* — debris of fallen trees. I make a somewhat free translation of his own words, as follows: "The trunks of these fallen trees served as bridges over the small streams, and their limbs answered the same purpose crossing quagmires. An American population is making now toward the concessions of the Genesee. The government sells these concessions more or less dear, according to the excellence of the soil, quality of the timber, and the course and number of the streams. The abodes within the 'clearings' here offer a curious admixture of wildness and civilization. Within the recesses of a forest that had previously only heard the yells of savages and the noise of wild beasts we often come across a patch of cultivated land, and perceive at the same time the cabin of an Indian and the habitation of a white man. Some of these finished homes in the woods recall the tidiness of English or Dutch farm houses; others, half completed, have but the dome formed by the standing forest trees for a roof. I was received in some of these habitations, and found often a charming family, with the comforts and refinements of Europe — and all this within a few steps of an Iroquois hut. One day, after travelling some hours without finding a trace of habitation, I perceived the signboard of a tavern hanging from the limb of a tree on the side of the road. . . . Hunters, farmers and Indians met together at these caravansaries, but the first time I reposed in one of them I asseverated solemnly it would be the last. Entering I stood stupefied at the aspect of an immense bed constructed around a stake; each traveler took his place in this bed with his feet toward

the center stake, and his head toward the circumference of the circle, in such manner that the sleepers were ranged symmetrically, like the spokes of a wheel or the sticks of a fan. After some hesitancy, I introduced myself into this machine, and was falling asleep when I was rudely awakened by the snoring of my *grand diable* of a Dutch guide [procured at Albany], who was extended fast asleep at my side! I never felt greater horror in my life. I threw myself out of the 'bunk,' cursing cordially the usages of the first settlers, and went to sleep in my manteau under the light of the moon." . . . Ariving at the Genesee river, the viscomte saw across that stream what he denominates the "marvelous rattlesnakes," attracted by the sound of a flute. A little farther on he came upon a family of savages with whom he passed the night, at some distance from Niagara falls. The history of that meeting and a description of the falls and of the scenery of Western New York generally may be found in *Atala*, in the *Essai Historique*, and *Genie du Christianisme*, by the same author. *Viscomte Chateaubriand* afterward became a prominent figure in French literature, not only, but in politics as well, and in 1822 was appointed ambassador-extraordinary to the British court.

Episode No. 3.

In 1814 General George Izard was the senior major-general of the American army on the Canada frontier during the campaign of that year. His family was among the earliest settlers of South Carolina, his father, a man of fortune, marrying Alice de Lancey of New York in 1767, niece of James de Lancey, lieut-governor of that province. General Izard was the only strictly professional soldier of the war of 1812–14, and an admirable sketch of his life and military career is given in the Magazine of American History for June last. During the summer of 1814 he was ordered to march 4,000 men from Plattsburg, N. Y., to Niagara. He started on the 29th of August, and arrived at Sackett's Harbor on the 16th of September, where he was delayed "five days on account of a violent gale which prevented any embarkation, and it was not until the 21st that 3,000 of the troops could be got on board Chauncey's fleet. These were landed the next morning early at the mouth of the Genesee river. The light artillery without their guns, the dismounted dragoons and a squadron of mounted dragoons, continued the journey by land. Upon landing at the Genesee river every exertion," says General Izard's diary, "was used to collect a sufficient number of wagons and horses for the trans-

portation of our camp equipage and provisions; but our appearance being unexpected [at Rochester] and that part of the country thinly peopled, it was not until the 24th that we could resume our march. Part of the tents and stores were unavoidably left, to follow as fast as means could be procured for the purpose. Through excessively bad roads, and amidst continual and heavy rains, we proceeded. . . . On the 26th the whole of our corps arrived in good spirits at Batavia." At Batavia he met General Brown, and their forces were joined, and the siege of Niagara decided upon. The troops were moved to Lewistown, and General Izard assumed command, with General Brown next in authority and General P. B. Porter commanding the New York militia. The result is too well known to need recapitulation here. The point to be ascertained is, from what place did Gen. Izard start on his march from the Genesee to Batavia? His diary gives no information on this subject. It is pretty well authenticated, however, that Chauncey's fleet did not come up the Genesee to Hanford's landing on the west bank of the river, and there debark the troops, as has been stated. They landed at what is now known as Charlotte, marching thence but a short distance to the point where "the ridge," running eastward and westward, is broken through by the ravine formed by the river. General Izard from there proceeded west, *via* the ridge road, until it became necessary to bear off in a more southerly direction toward Batavia.

Since the incidents, above briefly set forth, took place, Rochester has risen from a mere hamlet in the wilderness to a city of 140,000 inhabitants — a city of progress, of business energy, of culture, and of happy homes. Its past is a record of gallantry in war and noble achievements in peace. Its future is secure.

IV.—THE OPENING OF THE GENESEE COUNTRY.[1]

By Jane Marsh Parker.

The opening of the Genesee country of the state of New York, a little more than ten years after the close of the war of the Revolution, was to those troublous times what the opening of the new world was to the old, when an outlet was demanded for the evolution of ideas, which suppressed meant revolution. The Genesee country was an outlet for prevailing and increasing discontent with oppressive taxation, abandoned fisheries, a disabled commerce, severe laws against debtors, when everybody was in debt and chiefly the government to its discharged army — a government powerless to collect duties on imports, or to compel the states to raise their share of the national debt. The opening of the Genesee country did much to transform that discontent into a new force for the country's prosperity — a force making Western New York what it is to day—the brain, heart and sinew of the Empire state. The men who were foremost in opening the Genesee country left the impress of their character upon it — men like Oliver Phelps, Nathaniel Rochester, William Fitzhugh and Charles Carroll—gentlemen in the truest sense of the word, who had not failed at everything before taking up wild lands as a last venture.

The character of the first settlers in the Genesee country bore a significant relation to the character of its first great land proprietors. These pioneer settlers, as a rule, were of good family—many of them were the children of patriots. Their fathers had been impoverished through loyalty to their country's cause, and fathers and children were smarting under wrong for which there seemed no remedy.

Only 250 years ago the territory to the westward of Albany was called "the Unknown Land." Two hundred years ago La Salle and Father Hennepin, and Joncaire, were exploring Lake Ontario and the Little Seneca river (Genesee) and telling the world of the wonderful falls and the rattlesnakes.

The Franciscan missionaries had much to do with the opening of the Genesee country, those true heroes, journeying on foot from one Indian village to another, portable chapel on back, their lives at the mercy of the Iroquois. So too had the French traders with their

[1]Read before the Rochester Historical Society, June 14, 1888.

"brandie," and the English traders with their rum. But not until Sullivan's raid (1779), could it be said that Western New York was fairly opened to the white man, and not then for the legal ownership of land, as it was illegal to buy of an Indian without the authority and the consent of the legislature, and certain complications between Massachusetts and New York made the legal sale of land impossible.

What glowing descriptions of the beautiful Genesee valley were given by Sullivan's soldiers when they returned from the border — their fury having been chiefly spent upon corn fields and patches of beans, and in burning the deserted villages of the Senecas. But Sullivan could report to General Washington that he had not left "even the appearance of an Indian on this side of Fort Niagara." Such grass and corn and timber, such water privileges and soil, his men had never seen before, and naturally such stories created a great interest in the country, and when it was known that Massachusetts and New York had settled their difficulties concerning original grants, and that the Senecas had sold their lands, there was a universal interest in the Phelps and Gorham Purchase.

One hundred years ago — July, 1788 — Phelps and Gorham made their purchase of the lands of the Senecas, some two million six hundred thousand acres, extinguishing the Indian title forever.

When Phelps and Gorham had made a good title possible, and James Wadsworth and others were holding out inducements to settlers, and a few mills had been built and something like roads had been marked out, the ox teams took up their march for the Genesee country, and that mainly in the winter time, for the streams were without bridges. Trees would have to be felled before the log cabin could be built; the big box sleigh would serve awhile for a shelter. The land must be cleared for the first ploughing and the sowing of crops. Many of the journals of the pioneers tell how the family of little children lived for a week or more under the sleigh box, which was banked up by boughs, a big fire before it, snow on the ground, the wolves howling at night, and not a neighbor within miles.

The southern townships of the Phelps and Gorham purchase were far more popular than the northern. No locality was more unpopular than "the falls," the present site of Rochester, that dismal swamp in the roaring of the cataracts, that rendezvous of muskrats, mosquitoes and rattlesnakes, and with the worst of reputations for fever and ague.

A mill had been built at the falls in the autumn of 1789. The miller was most disreputable, his reputation that of a murderer, thief,

tory, spy, in fact it is hard to find anything to redeem his character. In less than ten years that first mill at the falls was a deserted ruin. The water power of the locality did not count so much with the average pioneer looking for a homestead as the distance he must go for salt, or to a market for his potash. The falls were objectionable for many reasons, and the river made a convenient door for Canada, when Canada was looked upon as an undesirable neighbor.

All in all, it is hard to understand what led Colonel Rochester, Colonel Fitzhugh and Major Carroll, as early as the year 1802, to buy one hundred acres at the falls, on the west side of the Genesee river, and to pay what was considered a high price, $17.50 per acre. A good part of the purchase was swamp land. Adjoining this hundred-acre tract to the northward was what was called the Twenty Thousand Acre tract, taken up twelve years before. The impression prevailed that the future city of the Genesee country would be below the high falls, not above them; and that its nucleus was already on the Twenty Thousand Acre tract, for that had a river landing for lake commerce and the trade with Montreal, something the One Hundred Acre tract could never have. Fording the river below the falls was easy enough, and safe fording was an important consideration when there was no bridge below Canawaugus some twenty miles above the falls. It did seem as though those Maryland gentlemen—Rochester, Fitzhugh and Carroll, who had started out from Hagerstown on horseback one September day in the year 1800 to see what the Genesee country was like, and to invest in its lands, if good opportunity were given — had been sharply dealt with when led to pay $17.50 per acre for land at the falls and *above* them at that. They were known to be men of experience, means and position, men eminently associated with public affairs, and only that each of them had made a large investment in lands in Livingston county, the choicest land in the Genesee country, there would have been few to congratulate them upon the result of their excursion. Were they investing in a preserve for deer, bears and racoons? Were they going to manufacture "rattle-snake gall pills"? There was at least one building on their purchase, or the remains of one: Allan's old mill, built some thirteen years before, but that was anything but attractive.

Colonel Rochester from the first had faith in the purchase. He foresaw where the center of the future city would be, and mapped out his streets and lots for that city, locating the "four corners" for all time. He was eminently gifted with foresight. He had, moreover,

a quiet, firm confidence in his own convictions. Having once reached a final decision he was content to let others, even the majority, differ from that decision. He was averse to controversy and self-vindication, and therein lay the strength of the man's character. If he had waited to be assured by friends and advisers that he would act wisely in investing in the One Hundred Acre tract, that there were good reasons for believing that the water power and the mills of the Genesee would develop a city, and that city's center would be at the "four corners" of his map — if he had waited for this encouragement the city of the Genesee valley would have been called by some other name than Rochester.

Colonel Rochester had passed his sixtieth year, and was far from vigorous when he decided to remove to the Genesee country, a step he never would have taken in his declining years, only that he was impelled by a conviction that his duty demanded the step for the good of his family. He had no idea of ever settling on the One Hundred Acre tract, but in Dansville, Livingston county, where he owned land on each side of the mill creek, and where he believed he could lay the foundations of a happy and useful future for his children. Born and bred at the south, an owner of slaves as his fathers had been, he made up his mind that a free state was better than a slave-holding one for his children, and in a free state he was resolved to give them a home, no matter what the sacrifice.

His eldest son, William B., who afterward made his mark in the political history of the state of New York, approved of his father's decision. "I feel well assured," he wrote to his father upon the subject, "that no step would contribute more effectually to the mutual and general benefit of us all."

Colonel Rochester's intimate relations with Henry Clay (Mrs. Clay before her marriage having lived in his family) were a source of encouragement for his resolution. In the considerable correspondence that took place between Henry Clay and Colonel Rochester much might be found—if the letters were available—showing perfect harmony of opinion as to the advantages of a free state for young men, and a start in life as pioneers.

Colonel Rochester did not count upon any great increase of fortune by the change, nor did he call giving up his old home and associations in Maryland a sacrifice; that would have been contrary to his nature. Nevertheless he did not sell his slaves as a first step in freeing himself from slavery. He decided to take them with him and emancipate

them in a free state. He owned ten in all, a grandmother and her descendants; the breaking up of slave families never had countenance from him. The removal of the blacks to the Genesee country would be troublesome and expensive, but that had little weight with him.

There was nothing in Colonel Rochester's departure from Hagerstown, Maryland, suggesting that he looked upon himself as a martyr for conscience sake. His going forth was not preceded by any open protest against slavery—discussion or controversy. If he made known his reason for going, the temper in which he made it known did not disturb pleasant relations with old neighbors, kinsfolk and friends. Their respect for the man insured respect for his convictions; it was contrary to his nature to engage in discussion. His opposition to any measure was never a source of irritation to his opponents, as has been amply illustrated in his public life in North Carolina and Maryland. He knew no good would come of his condemnation of the system of slavery. The time had not arrived when he could have taken a different and what some may call a more heroic course. And yet the name of Nathaniel Rochester has rightful place on the list of early protestors against slavery, and it is one of the few, perhaps the only one of note, which does not recall aught pertaining to discord or rupture. Carrying a cross before the gaze of a multitude, even if that multitude jeer and smite, is not so hard for the most of us as carrying a cross with never a spectator. He walked serenely in the path of his duty, thankful that his neighbors might walk at peace in theirs.

The departure of the Rochester cavalcade from Hagerstown, Maryland, was a memorable event. It moved slowly through the main street, the colonel's old friends and neighbors lining the way, many weeping as if it were a funeral train. The colonel and his eldest daughter and his five sons were on horseback — the youngest son, only four years old, upon his pet pony. Behind them were two family carriages, Mrs. Rochester's driven by a young man of good family, who had asked the privilege, and three heavy wagons loaded with blacks and luggage, four horses to each wagon — a picturesque procession recalling, no doubt, to some of the spectators the going forth of Abram of old to build a city in a strange land, for the Genesee country was far away, and the route of the cavalcade lay through the wilderness and over the mountains. The rider of the pony, the Hon. Henry E. Rochester,[1] is an honored citizen of Rochester to-day and he has a vivid re-

[1] Mr. Rochester has died since this article was written.

membrance of that journey through the valley of the Susquehanna, the camping by trout-brooks, the stop at the occasional block-houses, and the hospitality of the settlers. The arrival of the cavalcade at such places as Painted Post and Bath was the occasion of no little excitement, stirring up quite a number to follow in its wake to the Genesee country.

In less than five years after Colonel Rochester's settlement in Dansville, he had built there a flour mill, a large paper mill and a saw mill, each of which had his personal superintendence. In 1815 he moved from Dansville to his large farm in Bloomfield, some twenty miles from the One Hundred Acre tract, happy in the results of his emigration from Maryland.

The year following his arrival in Dansville (1811), he had made a map of village lots at the falls, and the lots sold exceedingly well. Lot No. 1 at the "four corners" had brought $200—and that lot is still the lot No. 1 of the city. A bridge costing $8,000 had been built across the river not far above the high falls (1812). The settlers, as a rule, were substantial merchants and mechanics, mainly from Pennsylvania and New England. Colonel Rochester thought more of the character of the settler than of cash-down payments, holding that the real value of his property depended upon the men who became its owners. Until 1814 the trouble with Great Britain had been a serious check upon the growth of the place. That removed, Rochesterville was "booming," its prosperity simply phenomenal. In 1815 its mills were making flour for the eastern market and Genesee flour ranked second to none. (It will be remembered that before the opening of the Erie canal in 1824 Montreal was the market of the northern townships of the Phelps and Gorham Purchase.) Settlers were arriving faster than roofs could be made to cover them; it was not uncommon to see a line of wagons in the main street, occupants living in and under them waiting for the erection of their cabins. Henry E. Rochester, the boy of the pet pony and the youngest son of the colonel, was the first express messenger of the region, spending a good part of his time on the road between the Bloomfield farm and Rochester, until his father's removal to the village, and then in making trips to Canandaigua, Mount Morris and Geneva, the bearer of packages which made it important for the lad to keep a sharp outlook as he journeyed alone.

In 1818 Colonel Rochester, decidedly against his choice, removed his family to Rochesterville. The care of his property there

demanded his personal superintendence; famous travelers were writing of its phenomenal growth, and foreign tourists went out of their way to see its falls and the wonderful Carthage bridge spanning the river. It was already conspicuous in the canal movement, and "Clinton's ditch" was begun, and would give it a direct waterway to New York. Lots were in demand, and there was a marked disposition on the part of land owners to hold their lots unless they could get a high price for them. Colonel Rochester was opposed to such a policy as one detrimental to the prosperity of the settlement, maintaining that personal advantage should be made secondary to the public good. He was strongly opposed to ground leases—that is the leasing of ground for a long term of years, the property to revert to the lessors. He called ground leases feudal and anti-American and would have none of them. He held that the future good of the settlement demanded that its pioneers should own their homes free of incumbrance if possible. He often sold his lots for what he could get, and he died a comparatively poor man.

Not many years after Colonel Rochester's departure from Maryland, he was followed by Colonel Fitzhugh and Major Carroll and their families, who made their homes on their great estates in Livingston county. Like Colonel Rochester they emancipated their slaves in the Genesee country. There was a settlement of freedmen at Sodus, Wayne county, in those days, and the old slaves of Fitzhugh and Carroll were largely located there.

Mrs. Gerrit Smith and Mrs. James G. Birney were daughters of Colonel Fitzhugh. Mrs. Smith and Mrs. Birney united with their three sisters in buying the slaves of their father's large estate and emancipating them at the north. Some of the freedmen were settled at Peterboro.

Colonel Rochester died in 1831, aged seventy-nine years. Three years after his death (1834), Rochester became a chartered city. Those who had felled its forests sat at the first council board of "the metropolis of the Genesee valley."

"Together we have struggled through the hardships of our infant settlement," we read in the inaugural of its first mayor, Jonathan Child, a son-in-law of Colonel Rochester, "and together let us rejoice in the glorious reward of our labors."

Nathaniel Rochester was pre-eminently a representative pioneer of the Genesee country; a true gentleman, unostentatiously identifying himself with the laboring class; a true southerner and a true patriot.

That cities and peoples have distinct individuality there are none to deny, nor that the individuality of each is largely the impress upon its formative period of the characteristics of its founders. In the rapid growth of the last twenty years Rochester has not lost the impress of her founders' individuality—an impress still to be seen in her marked conservatism, the disposition to decide her own matters in her own way—a mind to retain what has been proved good, no matter the fashion of the times; an adherence to the old unostentatious hospitality of her early days, and to public customs belonging to Rochesterville rather than to a city of about 150,000 inhabitants.

An idea of her founder's character is gained in what a citizen of Hillsboro, N. C., wrote of him. Hillsboro has never forgotten that Nathaniel Rochester was one of her sons, and although he removed from Hillsboro in his thirty-first year, he had held many important offices of public trust.

"President Swain of Chapel Hill used to impress upon his students, that Nathaniel Rochester was a man whose character they might study with profit * * * * a man whose schemes of life were well and wisely planned, and well and wisely executed." To this, those who live in the fair city that bears his name unite in saying, to-day, with those who knew him well in the pioneer days of the Genesee country: "Nathaniel Rochester was a public benefactor, rather than a land speculator."

V.—THE GENESEE RIVER AND WESTERN NEW YORK.[1]

By Henry E. Rochester.

The Genesee, the most considerable interior river in Western New York, has its most remote source near Coudersport, in Pennsylvania. Its entire length to Lake Ontario, by direct line, is about one hundred miles, by the course of the stream about one hundred and forty miles. It has many interesting historical associations with the aborigines, who once inhabited its borders, as also with the pioneers of our civilization. Few who have not traversed its borders have any adequate appreciation of the beauty and grandeur of many portions of its course. Before the construction of the Genesee Valley canal it was navigated by a kind of water craft, called Durham boats, as far south as Mt. Morris; by these boats merchandise was transported to various points up the river, and by return trips they brought down farm products and potashes to the village of Rochester, thence transferred to lake vessels at Hanford's Landing and shipped to Montreal, the market for farm products of Western New York before the completion of the Erie canal. By recent surveys, the total fall of the river from Belvidere in Allegany county to Lake Ontario has been ascertained to be 1,083 feet as follows:

Fall of river to falls at Portage,	253	feet.
From brink of upper falls at Portage to Mt. Morris,	475	"
From crest of dam at Mt. Morris to crest of mill dam above Court street in Rochester,	95	"
From crest of this dam to the lake,	260	"
Total	1083	"

The immense water power of this series of falls in the river and its numerous tributaries, applied in propelling the machinery of various manufacturing establishments, has contributed very largely to the development of the resources of the country and the prosperity and wealth of its population.

One traversing the banks of the river will have his attention drawn to the numerous beautiful creeks and lesser streams entering the river. The more important on the west side are Black creek, near our city; next in order, Allen's creek, at Scottsville; White creek, in Caledonia,

[1]Read before the Rochester Historical Society, February 1, 1889.

and outlet of Silver lake. Crossing the river at Mt. Morris we have the Canasaraga; at Avon, the outlet of Conesus lake, and at Rush Junction, the Honeoye. Another object of much interest, and attracting many visitors a few years ago, was the railroad bridge at Portage; its great altitude and peculiar construction constituted its attractive features; it crossed the river just above the brink of the upper falls. Upon several stone piers of considerable height was a superstructure of timber, of which every post, beam, girder and brace was in duplicate, so that it could be repaired or entirely renewed without interrupting the use of the bridge.

The face of the country in the counties of Monroe and Livingston is rolling, with long and easy slopes, a rich and productive soil, admirably adapted to agricultural purposes and production of cereals of great variety and superior quality. In Allegany the surface is rough and hilly, some of the higher ridges attaining an altitude of 2,000 to 2,500 feet above tide water; well adapted, however, to stock farms and dairies, not much, if at all, inferior in profit to the grain producing districts.

The area of drainage of the Genesee valley embraces a territory of about 2,500 square miles, or of square feet 27,884,480.

Assuming the rain fall and melted snow over this region to be thirty inches, we have in cubic feet 69,711,200. It is estimated that only about forty per cent. of this volume of water reaches the Genesee river; a great amount goes to fill up our interior lakes to their high water mark, and swamps and ponds; a large per cent. is absorbed by the soil, and a yet further large amount, not ordinarily duly apprehended, passes off by evaporation. Before the clearing away of the dense forests of the water shed, the absorbing power of the soil was much greater than now, and the evaporation much less. The water was stored in the soil, and numerous ponds and swamps, supplying springs with a copious and regular flow of water during the summer and early fall months. At that early period in our history, it was rarely, if ever, that water beyond the demand of our mill races did not flow over our mill dams and falls continuously. At that early period also, our spring floods embraced a period of about a month in their rise and fall; now a week or ten days suffices to carry off the surplus water. Such change has been caused by the clearing away of our forests, admitting the direct rays of the sun to more rapidly melt the snow and reduce the absorbing quality of the soil, and the further circumstance of the draining of all low lands and swamps, carrying off the water more rapidly into the river.

Three notable and unusual floods have occurred within the last eighty-five years.

The *first* was in 1805, of which we know very little, except that it was a very high and destructive one.

The *second* of note occurred in 1817. By very great effort and labor, a dyke was raised across Exchange street, from the guard-lock at the head of the mill race, to prevent the water flowing down the street and flooding the lower parts of the village.

The *third*, in 1865, within the memory of the then inhabitants of the city, deserves a more full description, if not for information of the present generation, for a future one. The upper portion of our valley was covered by a great body of snow. A period of very high temperature, commencing about the 12th of March and continuing for some six or seven days. On the 16th the flood was very high, but few, if any, were apprehensive of a very disastrous flood. During the night of the 16th a very sudden increase of the volume of water came rushing through the city, and on the morning of the 17th was flowing over Main street bridge and the banks of the Valley canal, on the west side of the third ward, and over the banks of the Erie canal in the vicinity of Lyell street. Very soon large portions of the first, second and third wards were submerged. The damage to merchandise, sewer and streets was very great.

The immediate cause of this very sudden and disastrous flood was the blocking up of the water ways in the railroad embankment crossing the flats from Avon over to Canawaugus, and the consequent damming up of the water to an unprecedented depth as far up as Mt. Morris, and then the sudden giving way of the railroad embankment and letting down this great accumulated body of water in the space of a few hours.

Our past experience suggests the great importance of preventing any further encroachment upon or obstruction of the channel of the river; indeed this duty is imposed upon our common council by a law of the state, but seems to be little respected, if indeed there is not total ignorance of such a law.

A scheme is now being considered by the Chamber of Commerce and the mill owners, to construct a very high dam at Mt. Morris, to store up a large body of water in that great gorge up to Portage falls to draw upon in times of low water, and in some measure control river floods. If the dam that may be constructed does not at any time give way, all very well, but if it does, we will be furnished with an enlarged and improved edition of the flood of 1865.

If, in portraying the features of beauty and grandeur in nature and art, presented to our view in Western New York, I should omit our beautiful lakes, the picture would lack the most attractive feature — on our western boundary Lake Erie, the majestic Niagara and its grand falls; on our northern, Lake Ontario with its numerous bays, and the large number of interior lakes, surrounded by fruitful fields and charming country. At the west we commence the list with Chautauqua lake, then next in order Silver lake, Conesus, Hemlock, Honeoye, Canadice, Canandaigua, Crooked, Geneva, Cayuga, Owasco and Skaneateles, besides numerous other very small ones, all gems of purest water, adorning the attire in which nature has clothed our beautiful land; they stand without rivals in number and beauty in the wide expanse of our country.

In forming our estimate of the attractive features of Western New York, and the Genesee valley especially, we are not limited by the beauty and grandeur of its natural scenery. We possess a soil of marvelous fertility—yielding, in return for the labor of the husbandman, a variety and quality of agricultural and horticultural productions and fruits combined, not surpassed, if indeed equaled, by any other section of our country—and a climate temperate and healthful, happily exempt from the extremes of heat and cold, tornadoes and blizzards so disastrous, at times, to life and property in other regions. The advanced stage of improvements in the development of the resources of the country by the enterprise and industry of its people is witnessed in the great progress of our manufacturing industries.

The numerous railroads constructed, ten lines radiating in all directions from our city, afford us the facilities for rapid transit of persons and property throughout almost the whole continent. As to the electric telegraph, our city justly claims the high distinction of organizing and placing in the van the great Western Union Telegraph company, which has put us in almost instant communication, or otherwise expressed, speaking distance, with all the civilized world. We may rightly claim to have two of the most beautiful and prosperous cities in our state, and several villages of matchless beauty for situation, as Charlotte, Avon, Geneseo, Mt. Morris, Canandaigua and Geneva. Where else can we find combined so many of the elements and conditions, contributing so largely to promote the health, happiness and prosperity of the people.

"Verily the lines have fallen to us in pleasant places;
Yea, we have a goodly heritage."

VI.—A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS OF THE CITY OF ROCHESTER.[1]

By S. A. Ellis.

The First School House.

Messrs. Fitzhugh, Carroll and Rochester, the proprietors of the land constituting the site of the village of Rochester, set apart, as a free gift, lots for a church, school-house, court-house and jail. The lot for the school-house was located on Fitzhugh street, north of and adjoining the lot on which St. Luke's church now stands. Here the first school-house in the village was erected. It was built in the fall and winter of 1813. It was a plain, one-story, wooden structure, its dimensions being about eighteen by twenty-four feet. The internal appointments of this primitive school-house—the forerunner of the thirty-four now devoted to the use of our system of public schools—was exceedingly simple. An inclined desk attached to the wall extended around three sides of the room, the pupils being seated on long benches without backs, and facing the wall, the feet of the smaller ones dangling in mid air. The room was heated by a fire-place, which served also for ventilation. The seats for the primary pupils occupied a portion of the space in the middle of the room, and for the most part were constructed of slabs just as they left the saw-mill, with the flat surface uppermost, and supported by legs set into the opposite sides. The only backs these seats possessed were those furnished by the pupils. The building was, for some years, used for religious services as well as for school purposes.

Some time prior to 1820 it was enlarged, and about 1823 it was still more enlarged and improved. It was finally supplanted by a large brick structure. Subsequently this building was superseded by the present large and ornate Free Academy building.

Early Teachers.

Of the early teachers, Mr. Riley, in Peck's history, says: "Aaron Skinner is said to have been the first teacher in the new school-house, and the first male teacher in Rochester. Thomas J. Patterson,

[1]Read before the Rochester Historical Society, February 14, 1890.

formerly member of Congress from this congressional district, has stated that he came to Rochester in his boyhood and resided with his kinsman, Dr. O. E. Gibbs, and attended school in the winters of 1813–14 and 1815, and that his teachers were Mr. Dodge and Caleb Hammond, then a medical student here. A relative of the late Moses King states that Mr. King, who survived till 1881, always claimed to have been the first male teacher in Rochester. If the last named gentlemen were not employed as teachers here anterior to Aaron Skinner, they all, doubtless, taught schools in Rochester about the same period. Mr. King unquestionably taught the first school in Frankfort."

Among those who, at later periods, were teachers in old "district number 1" were General Jacob Gould, in the winter of 1819–20; Mr. Bailey, about 1822, and afterward Mr. Wilder, formerly a Vermont lawyer. These were also employed there, though it is not probable that they could now be named in correct successive order as to the periods of their services: Thomas A. Filer, D. B. Crane, Zenas Freeman, Ellery S. Treat, Clarendon Morse, Dr. Ackley, Mr. Spoor and others. Most of the early teachers in different periods changed and interchanged between the different schools, public and private, of the time.

Under the First Board of Education.

For a considerable period, and up to 1841, the mayor, aldermen and assistants were, by virtue of their office, commissioners of common schools in and for the city, and were authorised to perform all the duties of such commissioners. On the 15th day of June, 1841, the original free school law of the city came into effect.

It provided for an annual special election, to occur in June, for the election of two commissioners from each ward, to constitute the Board of Education, which board was authorised to appoint a school superintendent.

Accordingly, on the 15th day of June, 1841, there being then but five wards in the city, George R. Clark and Carlos Cobb, of the first; John Williams and Silas Cornell, of the second; John McConnell and Charles G. Cummings, of the third; Moses Long and Henry O'Reilly, of the fourth; and Harry Pratt and Levi A. Ward, of the fifth ward, were duly elected as members of the first Board of Education. Levi A. Ward was chosen president of the new board. On the 5th day of July following, this board appointed

Isaac F. Mack as the first school superintendent. The old school district organisations, with local officers, remained unchanged. Each school was allowed a male principal and female assistants, according to the number of pupils. The pupils were assorted into three general divisions, named primary, intermediate and seniors. The male and female pupils were seated and instructed separately, constituting duplicate classes, of equal degree of advancement throughout, in each school, and the public school fund was appropriated to each, in parts corresponding to the ratio of the average attendance at each school during the year. By this unequal method, some districts were provided with four, some six, some eight, some ten, and some twelve months of school each year. This condition of things continued during the first seven years of trial of the free school law—district organisation, classification of pupils, and methods of instruction remaining the same as before its enactment. The essential benefits of the new law consisted in providing general and free tuition, and in establishing at least partially a system of general supervision.

In January of 1842 there were fifteen school districts in the city and seven school buildings. The report for 1842 says that there were 2,300 children in attendance upon the schools, and thirty-four teachers. The total cost of the schools was $13,000.

The report gives the number of districts as fifteen, with eight commodious brick school-houses; the average attendance as 2,500, and total cost $19,000. The second annual report of the Board of Education, for 1843, was presented by Superintendent Mack on January 12, 1844. It was published in pamphlet form and contains thirty-two pages. It is an exceeding interesting, instructive and valuable document, judged of even in the light of nearly a half century of progress in common school education.

The city contained, at that time, about 24,000 inhabitants, and covered an area of six square miles. The number of school children between the ages of five and sixteen, on December 31, 1843, was 5,650—a gain of 268 over the year previous. The aggregate number attending the public schools was 4,246—a gain of 892 over the year previous.

As an indication of the energy and push that characterised the management of the schools during that period, the report says that of the twelve school buildings then devoted to the use of the schools, nine of them were built during the two years 1841 and 1842, at

an aggregate expense of $28,400—an amount that would now be barely sufficient for the erection of a single grammar school building. No doubt that was a good deal for the young city that gloried in many and excellent private schools, to put into buildings for the use of the public schools within the short space of two years. We are, therefore, not surprised that the "Board of Education was frequently charged with extravagance in the erection of large and expensive school houses." The people, however, sustained the board; for at that time each district was assessed to meet the larger part of the expenditures for the maintenance of its school, and the money was voted.

The school buildings in districts 1 and 3 were built before the organisation of the Board of Education. The estimated value of all these buildings was given as $36,200. The taxable property of the city was valued at $4,367,756. In addition to the amount paid by the city for the erection of school buildings, each district was assessed for the support of the schools, which assessments, in 1843, amounted to $10,000, while the amount secured from the state was $2,386.80, and that for library books $457.20. The number of teachers employed was 44.

The Separation of the Sexes, and the Old District System.

Although much had been accomplished, it soon became evident that two serious obstacles to the progress of the schools still remained. These were, *the separation of the sexes*, which interfered with the work of grading and classifying the pupils, and required an unnecessary number of instructors; and the continuance of the *old district system*, by which the more popular schools, having the largest attendance, secured the "lion's share" of the public funds, and were thus enabled to continue in session for most of the year, while others, less fortunate as respects location and patronage, could be kept open only for a period of from four to five and six months each year.

For several years the question of reform in these particulars was agitated, both in the Board of Education and outside of it. A strong prejudice existed in the public mind against the seating of male and female pupils in the same room, and the residents of the districts in which the successful schools were located were unwilling to yield the advantages gained under the separate district system and opposed its abolition most strenuously.

On the 26th of March, 1849, a free school law was passed by the

state legislature, that applied to the whole state, making the common schools from that time forth free indeed, as they had been for some time in name. The beneficial effects of this law very soon became apparent. A new interest in the welfare of the public schools was awakened, and a step forward was taken in this city, when during the session of the legislature of 1849 and 1850 an amendment to the city charter was passed, authorising the abolishment of the old district system, with its local trustees, and placing all matters pertaining to the welfare of the schools in the hands of the school commissioners, save the appropriation of school moneys for the maintenance and support of the schools, which was left with the Common Council. Then followed an ordinance by the Board of Education, requiring that all pupils be seated, classified and taught without regard to sex. The passage of this somewhat radical measure was followed by the withdrawal of quite a large number of pupils from the schools; but, at the end of a year or two, discussion and opposition ceased, and the ordinance was soon quite generally accepted.

Colored Schools.

In the early days of the public schools of the city the colored children were instructed in a school by themselves. An attempt to abolish this school, and admit the children to the schools in the district in which they lived, was met by a storm of opposition. The "race problem" was found then, as now, a difficult one to settle. The discussion at that time seems to have ended in the establishment of two colored schools, instead of one, the parents of the colored children, generally, demanding separate schools.

In January, 1850, a memorial was presented to the Board of Education, asking for the discontinuance of the two colored schools, and the distribution of the pupils in other schools. This memorial was signed by George W. Clark, H. E. Peck, Wm. C. Bloss, Ralph Francis and J. P. Moran. At the same time, Fred. Douglass, Samuel D. Porter, and other well-known citizens addressed the board, and urged favorable action upon the memorial. No action was taken at that time. Not long afterward—in 1857—through sentiments developed by the growth and extension of anti-slavery principles in the community, the colored schools were abolished; and since that time colored children have attended the schools in the neighborhood of their homes.

Vocal Music.

At a meeting of the Board of Education, held on Sept. 13, 1852, vocal music as a branch of instruction was, for the first time, introduced into the schools, by a vote of 7 to 6, and James Murray and William Tillinghast were appointed teachers—one for each side of the river—at an annual salary of $300 each. Subsequently, and for some years, only one teacher was employed. From 1857 to 1862 no supervising teacher of this subject was employed, and it received very little attention in the schools. In January, 1862, a special teacher—Mr. M. L. Dunn—was again employed, and fresh interest was awakened in this beautiful and useful art. But the services of Mr. Dunn were dispensed with at the close of the school year for which he had been employed, and it was not until the opening of the school year in 1874 that vocal music was again introduced. Prof. E. P. Andrews, formerly principal of No. 4, and an accomplished musician, was appointed as special instructor and supervisor. In addition to his work as instructor in the schools, he gave instruction and musical drill to classes of teachers, twice each month. Gratifying success attended this experiment, and the teachers showed uncommon enthusiasm in the work. Nevertheless, in 1878, on grounds of economy—so claimed—the services of the special instructor were dispensed with, and music again dropped from the course. Some two years since the subject was brought to the attention of the board, and on June of last year it was again introduced, and a competent instructor and supervisor appointed. At the beginning of the present school year in September last, fifteen minutes were added to the forenoon sessions of the schools, in order to give time for this instruction.

The reintroduction of vocal music into the schools was hailed with delight by the majority of teachers and pupils, and the progress of the work up to the present time in all the schools is most gratifying.

Evening Schools.

The importance of establishing and maintaining evening schools, for the benefit of those unable to avail themselves of the privileges of the day schools, was brought to the attention of the board as early as in 1849. No action seems to have been taken on the subject, until the winter of 1852, when two schools were organised, since which time, with two or three short interregnums, evening schools have been successfully maintained until the present.

Drawing.

Drawing was introduced into the schools as early as 1858, but the work consisted mainly in copying pictures—as was the custom in that day—and in the outlining of mountains, lakes and rivers, and other objects connected with map-drawing, on the black-board. In 1870 a formal attempt was made to introduce free-hand drawing into the schools. Bartholomew's drawing books and cards were adopted. Considerable interest was excited; and, in schools where the teachers possessed some knowledge and skill in drawing, very satisfactory work was done. But the purchase of books and drawing materials was optional with parents, and this fact made success impossible, and after a short trial the Bartholomew system was abandoned. Walter Smith's system, which formed the basis of the present Prang system of form study and drawing, was adopted in 1871. This, in turn, gave way to the Krusi system in 1878. In 1884 drawing was dropped from the course of study. It was reintroduced and made compulsory in 1886, and Prof. E. C. Colby, of the Mechanics' Institute, was employed to give instruction and supervise the work. As no system of books was adopted, Prof. Colby gave the lessons to the teachers, and they in turn to their pupils, following practically the Prang system. This course was pursued for two years, at the close of which an exhibit, which was pronounced very creditable to teachers and pupils, was made at the rooms of the Mechanics' Institute.

At the beginning of the school year in 1888, White's system of free hand and industrial drawing was adopted by the board. Prof. E. Rose, of the Mechanics' Institute, was appointed supervisor in place of Prof. Colby, but he resigned his position in November. Miss M. J. Dyer, of New York city, a teacher of long and successful experience, was appointed to succeed him. During the last two weeks of January, 1890, an extensive exhibition of drawing, modeling in clay, etc., paper cutting and industrial work by the pupils of the schools, was made in the hall of the Free Academy, which was visited by many thousand school children, their parents, and by our children generally. It was pronounced by far the best exhibit of the kind ever made in the city.

University of Rochester Scholarship.

The trustees of the University of Rochester, at a meeting held on the 17th day of February, 1851, adopted the following resolution:

Resolved, That three scholars annually—making in all twelve—be

selected from the public schools, in any manner the Board of Education shall designate, to receive gratuitous instruction during the full college course, in the University of Rochester."

This generous gift was accepted by the Board of Education, and the first scholarships awarded under the resolution were to Simon Tuska, who afterward became a distinguished rabbi of the Jewish church; Thomas Dransfield, who is well known in this city as a former teacher and school commissioner, and as a successful business man, and Ephraim Gates. With few exceptions, these scholarships have been annually awarded from that time to the present; and, had the competition been open to young women, none of them would ever have "gone begging" in any year.

By this gift of the trustees of the university, that institution, although privately endowed, is placed directly in line with our free school system, completing it from foundation to capstone.

The High School.

The question of a free high school began to be agitated in 1830. Arguments, reports, memorials and legislation relating to this question followed from time to time, but it was more than a quarter of a century before the desired end was consummated.

At a meeting of the Board of Education, on the 10th of October, 1853, by a vote of nine ayes and two nays, the resolution to establish a free high school was carried. On account of various hindrances, however, the school was not organised until the beginning of the school year, in 1857. The building known as No. 1, located on the lot adjoining St. Luke's church on the north, was enlarged and remodeled for the accommodation of the school.

In September, 1857, at the first entrance examination, which was held at No. 3, two hundred and sixteen candidates made application, of whom one hundred and sixty-five were admitted. Of these thirty-nine were boys and one hundred and twenty-three were girls.

At the inauguration of the school, the building was dedicated with appropriate ceremonies. Addresses were made by Dr. Kelsey, Samuel D. Porter and Frederick Starr. These addresses were published in the report for 1858, and furnish at this day most interesting and instructive reading.

The first staff of teachers consisted of C. R. Pomeroy, A. M., principal; Edward Webster, A. M.; Frederick G. Surbridge, A. M.; Mrs. Mary J. Pomeroy, preceptress; Miss Emma M. Morse and Miss Susan

E. Butts, assistants. Professor Pomeroy shortly afterward resigned. Professor Webster succeeded him as principal, and held this position until the close of the school year in 1856, when he resigned. Dr. N. W. Benedict succeeded him, and was at the head of the school until the close of the school year in June, 1883, when he was succeeded by Professor Z. P. Taylor, A. M. Professor Taylor retired at the close of the school year in 1886, and was succeeded by Professor John G. Allen, who, for fourteen years, was principal of No. 14. The school has had its vicissitudes and struggles. For several years after its establishment its enemies—for it had them—sought to create a public sentiment against it. But its early friends—such men as Frederick Starr, William C. Bloss, Dr. Kelsey, S. D. Porter, Edwin Pancost, George W. Parsons, Levi A. Ward, and a host of others—rallied to its support, and in the end it gained, rather than lost, the public approval.

The school having grown too large to be accommodated in the old building, the legislature, in 1872, passed an act authorising the city to raise, by public tax, the sum of $75,000, for the purpose of erecting a new building. An additional lot was purchased directly north of the old one, plans were drawn and accepted, and the work of construction was pushed rapidly forward. When the building was partially finished, it became apparent that the appropriation would not complete it, in accordance with the plans. Several members of the Board of Education were in favor of changing the plans, so as to complete the building and still keep within the appropriation. Other counsels prevailed, however, and during the following session of the legislature an act was passed, authorising the raising of an additional $50,000. During the interval, and while the building was in progress of construction, the school was accommodated with quarters in the Masonic block. The building was completed and furnished in March, 1873, and on the 23d of that month the school took possession.

The new building was dedicated with impressive ceremonies. A report was presented by the building committee, through their secretary, Comr. Theron E. Parsons, at the close of which he handed over the keys to the president of the board, Comr. Geo. P. Davis.

Addresses were made by Pres. M. B. Anderson, of the university, J. D. Husbands, John N. Pomeroy, D. M. Dewey, who had been largely instrumental in bringing about the organisation of the school, at the outset; Hon. Lewis H. Morgan, Ald. James H. Kelly, and by the superintendent, and letters were read from Geo. W. Parsons and Rev. Dr. Campbell.

From a school of one hundred and sixty-five, it has grown to one of nearly eight hundred pupils, and with a staff of nineteen teachers. All the available space not in use by the Board of Education and the Central library is occupied by the school; and the time is not distant when the question of another high school building for the east side of the river must be met.

Superintendents.

One of the most important steps taken at the organisation of the board was the appointment of a superintendent. The men who formed that first Board of Education were in advance of their time, in this action, as there were at that period, even in New England, that led all other sections of the country in educational matters, but few cities with superintendents at the head of their schools. Now, any system of free schools without a supervising officer is the exception. I. F. Mack was appointed the first superintendent, and proved himself a very capable and efficient officer. He held office from 1841 to 1846, and was succeeded in turn by Samuel L. Selden—a part of one year—Delos Wentworth, the balance of the term, B. R. McAlpine, Washington Gibbons, Daniel Holbrook, R. D. Jones, J. Atwater, I. S. Hobbie, P. H. Curtis, C. N. Simmons, S. A. Ellis and A. L. Mabbett. Of these Daniel Holbrook served three terms, two of two years and one of one year. C. N. Simmons served three terms, one of one year, one of two years, and one of five. The present incumbent, S. A. Ellis, was in office from 1869 to 1876, and is now—1890—serving a second term, having been recalled in 1882. All the others served one term each. Mr. Holbrook was elected by the people, and served from 1848 to 1853. All the others were chosen by the Board of Education.

The Central Library.

The Central library was established in 1863, by consolidating the seventeen school libraries into one. Selections from these were made, and in addition a few valuable works were purchased, making one thousand volumes, thus forming a foundation on which this library was built. It was first established in suitable rooms in Baker's block, on West Main street, and in 1875 it was removed to its present commodious quarters in the Free Academy building, on Fitzhugh street. Mrs. S. M. Dransfield was appointed the first assistant librarian in 1870, and was succeeded in 1881 by Mrs. K. J.

Dowling, the present incumbent. An annual appropriation from the state of $879 is devoted solely to the purchase of books. The expenses incident to the care of the library, and for the binding of books, is paid by the Board of Education.

The library will compare favorably with other similar institutions of its kind throughout the country. It has been, until quite recently, the only free circulating library in the city. It numbers over 15,000 volumes, and has an annual patronage of over seven thousand readers.

The Birney Fund.

In 1871 Miss Birney, of Canandaigua, set apart, by will, "one thousand dollars for the education of the colored children of the city of Rochester." This amount was to draw interest after three years, and S. D. Porter, Thomas C. Montgomery and Frederick Douglass were appointed trustees, with power to execute the trust. As the trustees found it difficult to determine just how best to meet the requirements of the trust, the sum remained at interest in bank until a few years since, when Mr. Montgomery, the only resident trustee—Mr. Porter having died and Mr. Douglass living in Washington—consented to have the fund drawn upon by the superintendent of schools for the purchase of books for the use of colored children in attendance upon the public schools.

The Orphan Asylums.

In 1850 a law was passed by the legislature, providing that the schools in the various orphan asylums should participate in the distribution of the school moneys. At the first application of an asylum for its portion of the funds, a question arose as to the amount to be paid. The law was drawn so vaguely that lawyers differed widely in regard to its construction and application, and a compromise was made at that time by allowing each of the two asylums in this city $200 annually. This arrangement was continued until 1865, when the application of another asylum (St. Mary's) again opened the question, and numerous discussions in the board only created a greater difference of opinion in regard to the meaning of the law. It was finally determined to make a case and refer it to the Supreme court for decision. The case was tried at the September term, 1867—Hon. E. Darwin Smith, justice. The decision was in favor of the orphan asylum. By it the Board of Education was required to pay the teachers in the orphan asylum, on condition that the same

course of study and text books in use in the public schools be adopted by them. Under this arrangement the salaries of teachers in the Protestant, St. Mary's, St. Joseph's, St. Patrick's orphan asylums, the Church Home, the Industrial School of the Sisters of Mercy, and the Home of Industry, are paid by the board. The amount paid annually, in these institutions, at the present time, is $6,150.

The Teaching of German.

In 1872 a petition from prominent German residents was presented to the board, urging that the teaching of the German language be introduced into the schools. While the matter was under consideration, the superintendent and a committee from the board visited the schools of Cleveland, Chicago and Cincinnati, in which German was taught, to inspect the methods and observe results. Upon submitting their report, the board acceded to the request of the petitioners, and classes in the German language were organised in several of the schools. Three German teachers, besides a supervisor, were employed. The enthusiasm, which at first was considerable, soon died out, and the work was discontinued, except in the Free Academy, where German has been taught for many years.

The Bible in the Schools.

During the early period of the history of our schools, the morning sessions were opened, generally, with reading of the Scriptures and prayer. Subsequently the prayer was omitted, and the Scriptures were read without comment. At length, as there was no rule of the board requiring it, even this began to be omitted; and in many cases where it was continued, it came to be a mere perfunctory performance, of little, if of any, ethical value. It was at this time, 1875, that the question of the discontinuance of the practice still observed in some of the schools was brought before the board. I may be permitted to say that this was not done at the request or dictation of any religious sect, but was the result of a growing conviction on the part of several members of the board, that the public schools ought to be secularised, and every objection that might reasonably be raised against them on the ground of conscience, by any of their patrons, be removed. In June of that year, by a vote of 11 to 5, all religious exercises in the public schools, including the reading of the Bible, "without note or comment," was ordered discontinued. An effort

was subsequently made to reconsider the action of the board, but it was unsuccessful.

No Recess.

In 1883 the forenoon and afternoon recesses were discontinued in all the public schools, and the daily sessions were shortened one hour. The plan has worked with but little friction from the outset, and to-day it may be considered a settled practice in our schools.

Male and Female Teachers.

It was formerly the practice in our schools, as it was in the common schools of the country generally, to employ male teachers principally. But now all the assistants in our schools are women, and more than half of the principalships of our thirty-four schools are held by women. No. 18, which is the largest grammar school in the city, has a female principal at the head of it. Of the more than four hundred teachers at present in the employ of the board, all but sixteen are women.

The Seating of Pupils.

For many years after the organisation of the schools, the buildings were so constructed as to require the seating of all pupils in large study rooms on each floor. They were sent to rooms adjoining for recitation. That plan gradually gave way to the present practice, which requires the seating of pupils by grades, in rooms which are both for study and recitation. As a rule, pupils remain under one teacher but for a single year, when they are promoted to the next grade, enter another room, and are managed and taught by another teacher. This practice is general in cities throughout the country.

School Desks.

The evolution of the school desk is both interesting and suggestive.

First was the desk extending around the room, and attached to the wall, the pupil being seated on a bench facing the wall, as in old No. 1.

Next, desks for two pupils, extended around the room, placed at right angles to the wall, and if additional desks were required they were located in the center of the room. Then came the more modern double desk and seat combined, followed by the single desk, which has reached almost, if not quite, the stage of perfection. It is made in all sizes to accommodate the pupil, and for purposes of comfort

and health leaves nothing to be desired. The more than sixteen thousand pupils now attending our public schools are seated on single seats.

School Buildings.

The evolution of the school building is quite as interesting and suggestive as thas of the school desk. From the low one-story building, with its single room, as bare of comfort as a barn, it has passed through various stages of development, until it has arrived at the stage of such buildings as the Free Academy, Nos. 14, 15, 20 and 32, 33 and 34—buildings heated by steam or hot air, thoroughly ventilated, and complete in all their appointments. For purposes of study, for comfort and for health, these buildings are good examples of the last stage in the development of the modern school building.

Corporal Punishment.

Corporal punishment has always been allowed in the public schools of this city. During the early history of the schools, the rod played a large part in the management of unruly pupils. By a gradual process, it has finally lost its supremacy, until corporal punishment is now rarely resorted to. In some of our schools, it has come to be an unwritten rule that no pupil shall be subjected to corporal punishment. In one of our primary schools, corporal punishment has not been inflicted during the past seven years.

Organisation.

The schools are divided into four departments: the primary, intermediate and grammar, each consisting of three grades, and the Free Academy. Each of the nine grades below the Free Academy requires a year, of the average boy or girl, to do the work laid down in the course of study.

The school year is divided into two semesters of twenty weeks each. The regular promotions from grade to grade are made at the close of the school year in June.

Promotions are based upon the regular school-room work, and upon a written examination held at the close of the school year in June. Any who do not reach the required standing, but whose monthly standing in recitation gives promise that they may be able to do the work of the grade above, are "transferred," and given the opportunity to advance.

No written examinations are held in the first, second and third grades.

Teachers' Training Class.

In September, 1883, by order of the board, a teachers' training class was established, for the purpose of training applicants for positions as teachers in our schools. The class is under the direction of the superintendent.

A general view of the aim and plan of the teachers' training class is presented in the following outline:

1st. Conditions of entrance.
2d. Time.
3d. Subjects.
4th. Method of study.
5th. Program of weekly meeting.
6th. Reference library.
7th. Examination certificates.
8th. Practice.

First. Each applicant for membership must be eighteen years of age, and must have received at least three years of academic training and hold a Regents' preliminary certificate.

Second. The course embraces the forty weeks of the school year. The class meet for one hour each week to discuss the topic assigned the previous week.

Third. The subjects studied are

(a) Education.
(b) Teachers' qualifications.
(c) School Organisation, management and discipline.
(d) Duties of teachers in reference to the physical, moral and intellectual well being of pupils.
(e) History of pedagogy.
(f) Psychology in its practical application to principles of teaching.
(g) Methods of teaching the various school branches.
(h) Moral training.

Fourth. Questions upon each topic are arranged, printed and distributed to the class a week or more previous to the discussion of that topic. Members of the class are required to prepare for the discussion by the study of the books of any good author, by personal observation, by conversation with those who have given attention to the subject, and by their own thinking and reasoning.

Fifth.

(a) Roll call.

(b) Literary quotations from six or eight members of the class, and news items from an equal number, these having been previously appointed for the purpose.

(c) Reading of the minutes of the previous meeting by any one upon whom the leader may call, and additions and corrections, comments.

(d) The leader calls upon members of the class in turn (using cards), to answer and discuss the questions in the printed list, opportunity being given for voluntary remarks or questions upon each topic thus discussed.

Sixth. Books of leading authors upon all subjects in the course of study, from a reference library for the special use of training class.

Seventh. A second grade certificate is given to all members of the class who pass successfully the examination given at the close of the year's work, which is good for one year of teaching; at the expiration of that time, all who shall have demonstrated their ability to manage and instruct a class of pupils receive a first grade certificate, which makes them eligible to appointment to teach in any grade in the public schools, below the high school, except as principal of a grammar school.

Eighth. All substitutes and temporary assistants are taken from the training class, as well as nearly all appointments to permanent positions.

The only certificates now recognised by the board, besides those issued to graduates of the training class, are New York state, college and normal school certificates.

Free Kindergartens.

In 1882 or 1883 an effort was made to organise a free kindergarten for poor children, on the plan of Felix Adler's school in New York city. The attempt failed for want of financial support. In 1887 the Mechanics' Institute of this city, whose board of trustees embraced a considerable number of those who were interested in the previous movement, decided to establish a kindergarten, and employed Miss Mary Tooke, a kindergartener of successful experience, to take charge of the school. The Board of Education gave the use of two vacant rooms at No. 20 for the use of the school. In addition

to her work as teacher, Miss Tooke gave instruction to six young ladies, in kindergarten methods. The school proved a great success. Applications were made for three times the number that could be received.

At the beginning of the new school year in September, 1888, the Board of Education decided to open six kindergartens, under the control of the board. They were located in districts Nos. 3, 4, 5, 10, 12 and 20, and are still in successful operation. The attendance has averaged about two hundred and fifty pupils.

The Board of Education.

There are sixteen members in the Board of Education, one from each ward in the city, who serve for a term of two years. They are nominated in the ward "primaries," and elected on the ward tickets, with aldermen, supervisors, etc., etc. It was originally intended that one-half the members should be retired annually, and the even ward elect school commissioners one year and the odd ward the next. This order is followed until the eleventh ward is reached. As that ward was constituted the year when the elections for school commissioners occurred in the even wards, a commissioner for that ward was chosen for two years, at that time. The opposite of that obtained with reference to the election in the twelfth ward, and as the fifteenth and sixteenth wards were set off at the same time, the commissioners in both those wards were chosen at the first local election that occurred thereafter. It, therefore, happens that commissioners will be elected this year (1890) from the first, third, fifth, seventh, ninth, *twelfth* and thirteenth.

The Board of Education is organised annually, on the first Monday in April, by the election of a president, who appoints all the standing committees. The superintendent acts as clerk of the board. The officers elected by the board are as follows: The superintendent, who is chosen for two years, at the second meeting in June, and his term of office expires on the 15th of July thereafter; the superintendent's clerk, assistant librarian of the Central library, messenger, janitor and engineer of the Free Academy, school carpenter and school policeman. All these officers, save the superintendent, are elected on the first Monday in April, and serve for one year. In addition to the appointment of all teachers and employees, and the general management of the schools, the Board of Education has entire charge of the erection and repairs of all school buildings,

and the general supervision of all the property of the city devoted to school purposes. Members of the board, whose duties are often exacting and burdensome, requiring time and labor in their proper discharge, serve without compensation. The regular meetings of the board occur on the first and third Mondays of the month, and begin at 8 o'clock in the evening.

School Funds.

The funds to meet the expenses of maintaining the schools are provided for, in part, by the annual state appropriation, and in part by an appropriation by the Common Council, from the proceeds of the annual tax levy. The appropriation from the state last year was $57,998.58, and that from the city, for all school purposes, was $295,000.00, which included an extra appropriation for new buildings of $30,000.

The school funds are in the hands of the city treasurer, and are drawn out on the order of the Board of Education, by check signed by the president and superintendent.

All bills against the board are referred in open board to the several committees having them in charge, and, after they have been approved and signed by members of the committee, are subsequently referred to the finance committee for payment.

The monthly salaries of teachers and other employees of the board are audited by the salary committee, and if approved are recommended for payment.

Organisation of Schools.

The public schools of this city are divided into four departments, viz.: Primary, intermediate, grammar and Free Academy.

The primary schools include the first, second and third grades.

The intermediate schools include the fourth, fifth and sixth grades.

The grammar schools include the seventh, eighth, ninth and tenth grades.

There are fourteen grammar schools, and twenty intermediate and primary.

Attendance.

The attendance for February, 1891, was as follows: Number registered, 17,187; Number belonging, 14,486; Number in daily attendance, 13,524.

Conclusion.

Those who, in the beginning, amid many discouragements, laid the foundations of the public school system of this city, "builded better than they knew."

Most of them "rest from their labors and their works do follow them."

All through the years there have been, and now are, wise heads and noble hearts planning, guiding, teaching—working not only for the day and the hour, but for the coming ages. Surely these shall not be without their reward.

VII.—HISTORY OF MUSIC IN ROCHESTER.[1]

By Herve D. Wilkins.

There are many facts in the growth of civilisation in nations and countries which are exemplified upon a smaller scale in the rise and growth of smaller communities, and one of these is what may be called the succession or sequence of ideas. The first thing to be done in a new country is to clear the land and build a home, then follow the pursuit of agriculture or of business calculated to provide the necessaries and comforts of life, then the development of means of communication with the outside world, roads, canals, railroads, steamboats, etc. It is only after all these are accomplished, and after industrial, communal and perhaps political questions have been settled, that man finds leisure and means adequate to the pursuit of an art.

The settlement and growth of our city has offered no deviation from this rule, and we find that, although there were houses and people here as early as 1810, it is not until twenty years later that we learn of any musical operations. We may fairly conjecture that the first musical instrument which was brought into Rochester was a violin, and that its owner would naturally do a thriving business at the social gatherings of those days.

Music is the youngest of the sisterhood of the arts. This is a result of the fact that while the arts of painting, sculpture and architecture deal with tangible and stable materials and forms, the art of music deals in sounds, which are fleeting and transient. It is therefore quite natural that it should be only after man had tried his hand at that art which can be seen and handled, that he should then for the first time turn his mind to that art which can only be heard and felt.

The cultivation of music follows naturally three different paths, sometimes widely diverging and again coinciding with each other; these are church music, music in the home, and concert music. I will therefore first speak of the choirs of Rochester.

In St. Luke's church there was in the early days, beginning about 1833, a chorus choir which contained many well-known names. The late Rev. William Staunton, D. D., was one of the early organists, succeeding Daniel Clark, who was the first organist in Rochester.

[1]Read before the Rochester Historical Society, March 14, 1890.

The late D. M. Dewey was for many years leader of this choir, and the list of members includes Mrs. D. M. Dewey, H. F. Atkinson, Roswell Hart, Nathaniel Rochester, and others equally well known. The organ was built by Appleton, of Boston, in 1825, and was in its day remarkable for its sweetness and power of tone. Some of the later organists were Miss Marion McGregor, the late R. F. C. Ellis, and others.

In the First Presbyterian church, which stood on the site of the present city hall, there was another Appleton organ, played for many years by George Dutton and the late B. A. Whaples. Members of this choir were Dr. F. F. Backus, Loren Parsons, William H. Perkins, G. H. Perkins, Miss Harriet Williams and others.

At St. Peter's church, on Grove street, built in 1852, through the liberality of Levi A. Ward, there was a fine toned organ by Jardine of New York. This organ was played for many years by Miss Marion McGregor, and by Henry Belden, now of New York, and the choir in 1865 included such names as Miss Alling, Willard Abbott, George K. Ward, and others. The music at this church was always remarkably fine, and was especially promoted by the late Rev. Edwin Yeomans, pastor from 1863 to 1869, who was a very accomplished musical amateur. In the spring of 1868 this church was burned, but it was immediately rebuilt, and provided with a fine Hook organ, mainly through the efforts of Frank B. Mitchell.

Some of the noted singers in the choir of St. Peter's since 1870 have been Mrs. Emory Osburn, Frank Mitchell, Miss Ollie Moore, Miss Louise Alling and Theodore Hopkins, more recently pastor of the Central church, of this city. Mr. Hopkins was a most accomplished vocalist, and sang his part, the bass, in a most effective manner.

Plymouth church contained the first large organ in Rochester, and it was played for many years by Dr. Baldwin, of North St. Paul street, who was a very ardent musician. He now resides at Englewood, N. J.

At the Central church there has always been a chorus choir. The early organists were Professor Charles Wilson and Miss Tillinghast, and from 1863 to 1870 Dr. S. N. Penfield, now of New York. Among the members of this choir were Mr. W. A. Hubbard, the late Mr. Albert Hastings and the late Thomas Parsons, and many other well-known citizens.

The Brick church had a large and flourishing choir in the early

days, and one of the earliest directors was Dr. Stone, and another for several years prior to 1852 was Mr. B. W. Durfee, who also owned a violoncello which was celebrated all over Western New York under the name of the Durfee violoncello. The organists in the Brick church were successively Henry Belden, Miss Tillinghast, now Mrs. Frohock, of Boston, and a celebrated player, and from 1856 to 1868 the late John Kalbfleisch. Mr. Kalbfleisch was an honored and eminent member of the Masonic fraternity and a useful and upright citizen.

My father, the late Rev. A. Wilkins, of Rose, N. Y., was in his young manhood quite proficient in music and had a chorus and orchestra in the church at Barrington, near Grove Springs, on Lake Keuka. He came to Rochester and succeeded in purchasing the Durfee violoncello, and it is now in my possession. It is somewhat larger than the usual pattern, but it is well preserved and of good tone.

Within the past few years a great advance has been made in the church music of Rochester, and the high standard maintained has been largely due to the fact that so many of our ministers have been, and are, musical amateurs of ability.

Dr. Yeomans was, during his residence here, the only minister who had showed proficiency and skill in music, but since then we have had Dr. Robinson, of the First Presbyterian church, Mr. Adams, of Plymouth church, Mr. Hopkins of the Central church, and Mr. Taylor, of the Brick church, and others who have served their time and have done good work either as organists or singers in church.

At present there are flourishing chorus choirs in the First Baptist, Central Presbyterian, Brick church, St. Andrews, St. Paul's, Christ church, the Epiphany, and others. As a matter of record I have arranged a list of names of organists and singers in the prominent churches of the city.

Speaking generally, we are at present fully abreast of other cities in the cultivation of church music, and many names can be recalled of those who, reared and trained in Rochester, have distinguished themselves as church musicians in New York and elsewhere. Among them are Louis Falk, the celebrated organist of Chicago; C. E. Reynolds, also of Chicago; Mr. Tromblee, formerly tenor in St. Luke's choir, now at the head of a music school at Montpelier, Vt.; Miss Tyrrell, for many years soprano soloist at the Brick church, and now of St. Luke's, and one of the finest singers to be found anywhere, and many others.

Regarding music in the homes of Rochester, by which I mean the

cultivation of the piano, the voice, and domestic music generally, Rochester has, since an early period, shown great activity and interest.

Benjamin Hill was one of the best known music teachers of the city from 1830 to 1858 and his name is always mentioned in connection with early musical affairs.

Professor B. C. Brown was a prominent music teacher here as early as 1834, and in 1840 the celebrated English ballad singer, Henry Russell, came to Rochester, and for a year or more taught singing, directed the Rochester Academy of Music, and gave vocal concerts. Some of his songs, mostly descriptive, were very popular. Among them, the "Maniac" and the "Burning Ship" are good types of the favorite songs of that day.

Professor Robert Barron is still remembered by many of our citizens as a very worthy man, and a good musician, who lived here and taught music from 1841 until the close of his life in 1864.

J. S. Black was also a prominent vocal teacher in Rochester from 1859 to 1869. Mr. Black came from New York, where he held the esteem of the best musicians, and while here numbered most of the prominent local singers among his pupils. One of these was Miss Jennie Bull, who was a general favorite on account of her gracious manners and pleasing voice. Miss Bull went to New York and became the wife of Judge Van Brunt. She is still singing in church, and is a very charming vocalist. Mr. Black is now residing in Indianapolis, where he is apparently at the head of musical affairs.

In 1866 Henri Appy came to Rochester from New York, after having for many years made a highly successful career as a violin virtuoso, and has since then been continually active here as a teacher of the violin and of singing. Other prominent vocal teachers have been Miss Helen E. Phelps, who is still teaching here; J. S. Munson, leader of the Brick church choir from 1863 to 1867, and a remarkably good tenor singer, Mr. Staples and others.

Among the successful piano teachers who might be named are Miss Julia Hill, Homer Robinson, R. F. C. Ellis, Mrs. Carey, Mr. Sherwood, Mrs. Faber and Mr. Van Laer.

In the departments of piano playing and singing Rochester has long borne a high reputation. There are continually many pupils from abroad, not excepting distant states, and including California and Texas, who are residing in Rochester in order to perfect themselves in these branches of music, and there are already found here many amateurs of great ability, some of whom have perfected their

studies in Europe, and we have local players and singers who are of very high rank, and we have sent out many musicians who have achieved distinction abroad. Among them may be mentioned Miss Weed, Miss Clapper and Emil Schenck. All now reside in New York.

The third branch of musical art of which I have spoken is that of public secular music, which includes oratorio, opera and concerts. One of the earliest organisations of this sort was the Rochester Musical society, numbering sixty singers, formed in 1835, under the direction of B. C. Brown, who kept the first music store here, and was quite prominent in musical affairs.

The next organisation was that of the "Harmonic," in 1851, at whose head was Professor Charles Wilson, assisted by Robert Barron. Henry Schenck, H. Haass and Wm. M. Rebasz were active members of this society, which brought forward among other works Haydn's "Creation" and Handel's "Messiah."

In 1849 was built for Rochester one of the finest music halls in the country; this was the old Corinthian hall, and in it were heard all the great artists of the time, Jennie Lind, Rubenstein, Von Bulow, Gottschalk, Thalberg, and many others equally eminent.

William A. Reynolds was the proprietor, and the walls of his private office, known everywhere as No. 7, were hung with the pictures of many of the most notable musicians who had appeared in concert here, and had enjoyed his acquaintance and hospitality. Some of these pictures are still found in various rooms in the building, now known as the Academy of Music. This hall was celebrated far and wide for its acoustic properties. There was also a smaller hall seating about 500 persons in the old Rochester Savings Bank building. Here for years Professor J. S. Black, and later Mr. Appy, conducted both choral and instrumental rehearsals and concerts.

In 1817 the first brass band was organised, the leader being Preston Smith, and some of the members were Jehiel Barnard, Edwin Scrantom, Nathaniel Rochester and Myron Strong. Other well-remembered band leaders have been Captain Cheshire, Captain Adams, Scott, Newman, Perkins and Hadley.

In 1865 the Philharmonic orchestra was organised under the veteran Professor John H. Kalbfleisch, and then—as well as in later years, under the leadership of that distinguished musician, Henri Appy—enjoyed a large share of popular patronage and continued to be the largest and most efficient orchestra between New York and Chicago.

The Opera club, beginning in 1879, with M. E. Wolff, business manager, R. H. Lansing, musical director, and J. M. Angle, stage manager, achieved a marked success, producing in fine style, "Pinafore," "Chimes of Normandy," "Trial by Jury," and other pleasing operas; and in 1881, with the co-operation of the Mænnerchor, Apollo club, Shakespeare club, and various solo artists, gave a grand concert at the Corinthian Academy of Music for the benefit of the soldiers' monument fund.

The Oratorio society was formed in 1882 under the direction of Professor Henry Greiner, and continued for several seasons with great success, both musical and financial. This society brought forward a great number of works for chorus, soloists and orchestra, including the "Messiah," the "Creation," and other great compositions, and also introduced a great number of excellent singers from abroad to our public, including D. M. Babcock of New York, Clarence Hay of Cambridge, Mass., and others. The financial and business success of the Oratorio society were largely due to the experience and skill of Henry Amsden and J. H. Stedman, who undertook its management.

In the spring of 1880 a few gentlemen interested in vocal music, including Warren Cutler, Howard Osgood, John H. Hopkins, Fred Allen and others, formed themselves into a temporary organisation and gave a complimentary concert in the studio of Herve D. Wilkins, who held the post of musical director. So successful was this public rehearsal that a season of concerts was decided upon. A permanent organisation was effected, and the Mendelssohn vocal society began its systematic practice. Its concerts for that season were given in Mr. Wilkins's studio and in the attractive hall in the Powers block, and later, in the Corinthian academy, and in the city hall. In 1883 the society enlarged its membership, secured a large subscription list, and under the management of E. H. Satterlee and others enjoyed until 1888 the most extensive patronage Rochester has ever bestowed upon a local organisation. It was also instrumental in bringing before the public many excellent artists from abroad, among whom may be mentioned Mrs. Gerritt Smith of New York, Miss Louisa Pyk of San Francisco, Miss Maud Morgan, the celebrated harpist, daughter of the eminent organist of that name; Herr Alvary of the German opera company, Miss Agnes Huntington, and many others. It is to be regretted that, through some errors in the policy of the managers of the Mendelssohn society, the interest of its members and the public was allowed to die out.

The accession of the Germans gave a strong impetus to activity in the line of instrumental concerts. Fred Meyering, the father of the present generation of that name, was for many years one of the most successful and popular of Rochester musicians. He was an ardent follower of his art, and spent much of his time in private practice and in rehearsing classic music for stringed instruments.

The house of Dr. Kuichling on North Clinton street was for many years a center of musical activity. It possessed a large and commodious music-hall, where weekly musicals were given with the assistance of Mrs. Kuichling, who was an accomplished pianist, being a pupil of the celebrated Ignatz Lachner. Many noted musicians were from time to time guests at these musicals, notably among them Carl Formes, the eminent basso, and Miss Mathilde Tœdt, the violinist.

Fred Meyering was the musical director of the Euterpe society, an orchestral band of twenty-four members, mostly from the old Harmonic society.

In the early part of the year 1854 was founded the Mænnerchor, now the oldest and in many respects the most successful music club in Rochester, despite the rain that never fails to fall on the occasion of its annual masquerade ball.

In the year 1865 Herve D. Wilkins was engaged as organist at Plymouth church and began what is believed to have been the first organ recitals ever given in Rochester. Mr. Wilkins has continued his organ recitals each season, excepting 1870 and 1874, in St. Peter's church, then in the First Presbyterian church, and later in the Brick church. These recitals have always been extensively patronised and have given Mr. Wilkins an opportunity to present all the best works written for the organ in the most advantageous manner.

Mr. Wilkins began his piano recitals in the music store of Mr. Ellis, then in Powers block, in 1871; these were later continued in the music store of Gibbons & Stone on State street, and upon the enlargement of the Rochester Savings Bank building Mr. Wilkins secured a large room in the lantern, where he has since given his piano recitals and lectures. The whole number of the organ and piano recitals already given numbers nearly 140, and the number of works presented nearly 600.

At the present writing, musical interests in Rochester are in a flourishing condition. The Brick, Central and other churches have fine choirs. A large number of musical professors are steadily

imparting instruction in all branches of music. There are concerts by local artists, and probably more public recitals of music by pupils of various teachers are given in Rochester than anywhere else in the country. The music trade is also particularly active and profitable; we have the most complete music store (Gibbons & Stone) outside of New York city, and Rochester sells more pianos and other musical instruments than any other city of its size and population in America.

MEMORIAL SKETCHES.

HENRY E. ROCHESTER.—Henry Elie Rochester was born in Hagerstown, Maryland, January 7, 1806, and was the youngest son of Colonel Nathaniel Rochester. His father was descended from a long line of Rochesters who had resided upon a Virginia plantation, in Westmoreland county, since the coming of the family from England in 1689. Nathaniel Rochester, however, lived for many years in North Carolina, and it was not until after he had made an honorable military record in the Revolution, and had held several civil offices, that he removed to Maryland. Here, in 1788, he married Sophia Beatty, a native and a resident of Frederick, Maryland, whose family traces back its maternal ancestry through Gutenberg.

Nathaniel Rochester and wife had twelve children. At the time of my father's birth, my grandfather's home was in Hagerstown, where he held many important commercial and political trusts. He had already made his first visit to the Genesee country, had made large purchases in what was then a part of Steuben county, and had, in 1802, in company with Major Charles Carroll and Colonel William Fitzhugh, bought the One-Hundred-Acre tract near the Genesee falls. The price paid for this tract was $17.50 per acre. It formed the nucleus of the city of Rochester, which, as is well known, was named for Colonel Rochester. In 1810, when his son Henry was but four years of age, Colonel Rochester came with his family to Dansville. He resided there five years and then took up his residence on a large farm in Bloomfield, Ontario county. He visited his purchase at the Genesee falls often, and in April, 1818, removed his family to the little town which already bore his name, through the choice of his associates in the purchase. Here he lived, respected by all, until his death in 1831. I recall, with much pleasure, the lively interest with which my father used to tell the story of the journey from Maryland to the Genesee country. Though but four years of age, he rode his pony all the way, excepting the hours when taken into one of the carriages for needed sleep and rest. And he remembered distinctly many of the interesting incidents by the way. Mrs. Jenny Marsh Parker alludes in a graphic manner to the journey of this cavalcade, both in an article published in this pamphlet and in her "Story Historical."

Henry E. Rochester received his education at Wyoming seminary, and at Hobart college, Geneva. He commenced the study of law with his brother, William B. Rochester, at Bath, Steuben county. After admission to the bar he came immediately to this city, and, when about twenty-three years of age, formed a partnership with a Rochester lawyer named Ford. This continued but a short time, and was followed by the formation of the firm of Smith & Rochester, in which the late Judge E. Darwin Smith was associated with him. On account of ill health, he retired from the practice of the law in 1845. Mr. Rochester next engaged in the transportation busi-

ness on the canal and in furnishing pig-iron and coal to forges and furnaces. In this business he was in partnership with his brother Nathaniel T. Rochester, and they owned quite a number of canal boats and warehouses. In 1853 he removed to a farm in the town of Caledonia, near the line between that town and Avon, where he lived until 1864, when he again became a resident of this city. It is an evidence of the esteem in which he was held by his neighbors, that he filled the office of supervisor nearly all the time that he lived in Caledonia. Since 1864 Mr. Rochester lived in this city and gave much time to municipal affairs. In the time of Henry Clay, he was a devoted adherent to the Whig party, but, after the shattering of that organisation, he became a Democrat and took a lively interest in the affairs of that party. He served as alderman of the third ward in 1868 and 1869, and was elected president of the board in the latter year. He also served as supervisor of the third ward from 1873 to 1875 inclusive. He was twice the Democratic candidate for mayor, but was defeated both times, owing, doubtless, to the heavy Republican majorities which were the rule in this city. Mr. Rochester was eminently qualified for public office, and was often solicited to become a candidate for the Assembly and for other public positions, but uniformly declined. He often represented meetings of citizens at Albany, however, when favorable action on local bills was desired at the hands of the governor. He was an especially warm friend of Governor Tilden and possessed much influence with that executive.

My father was a member of the Protestant Episcopal church, and in early life belonged to St. Luke's parish, where he was a vestryman and leader of the choir. He went out from St. Luke's as one of the principal founders of Trinity church, where he was a very earnest and active worker, being superintendent of the Sunday school, lay-reader, and always director of the music. More than one of the earlier rectors of Trinity found his home in my father's house in Livingston park, where numbers of the clergy were frequently entertained, and he continued to exercise this hospitality during our residence in Livingston county. After his return to the city, feeling sensitive in consequence of heavy losses which he had suffered, he was not a very regular attendant at any church, but he retained his membership with St. Luke's, and was a delegate from that church to the convention held at Geneva, to commemorate the fiftieth anniversary of the formation of the diocese of Western New York. He was then the only survivor of the convention at which the diocese was organised. I may mention an item of interest in connection with this sketch. On July 10, 1820, the vestry of St. Luke's church resolved to avail itself of the offer made by the original proprietors of the One-Hundred-Acre tract, "to convey lot number 85 to the first religious society that should take possession of the same and build a church thereon." Before the lot was secured, an effort was made in the Roman Catholic interest to forestall the vestry, and a messenger was sent to Geneseo to secure the signatures of Messrs. Fitzhugh and Carroll to a deed of gift. But the vestry dispatched Henry E. Rochester, then a lad of fourteen years, on a fleeter horse, with a similar object in view. The latter succeeded in passing the other messenger, who was tarrying for refreshment in the tavern at Avon.

Mr. Rochester was one of those most actively interested in the formation of the Rochester Historical society, also a member of its board of managers,

and he was present at every meeting of the society, from its foundation until the time of his death.

Henry E. Rochester was married to Jane Hart, a daughter of Roswell Hart, Sr., on April 17, 1833, the ceremony being performed in LeRoy by my mother's brother-in-law, Rev. Dr. Francis H. Cuming. My mother died in 1866, my father June 3, 1889. His was a life fraught with varied experiences, and he had passed through many sore trials. Though spared to us for more than fourscore years, death seemed awaiting him many times, and many were his hair-breadth escapes, from the time that as a child, in the woods near East Bloomfield, he was pursued by wolves, until his marvellous recovery after being run over by a wagon in this city, when he was over eighty years of age. Perhaps one of the most remarkable of these experiences was his hand-to-hand encounter with two armed burglars, in my mother's bed-room, when they were living in the suburbs of the city, on Lyell road. This was especially notable, being the first thing of the kind in Western New York.

I cannot close this sketch without a tribute to some of my father's noble qualities — his staunch integrity, his faithfulness to every trust committed to him, his painstaking care for the ignorant and for the down-trodden. It was not alone in municipal affairs that his services were called out, and this without reward, but to the public charities, both of city and of state, he gave like careful thought. With my father's closing years, there came a restful peace in our quiet home, and I cherish the memory with great satisfaction. It was my privilege to be always with him, and no one knows so well the character evidenced in his last illness. With mental faculties unimpaired, but with physical powers giving way in those last weeks, there was a wonderful patience and gentleness. His was a peaceful death, and near the last there was a look that made us sure some spirit from another world ministered to him.

To the late Hon. James L. Angle we are indebted for the following memorial, read before the Historical society, Thursday, June 13, 1889, the first meeting of the society at which my father was not present:

"Henry E. Rochester died in this city on the 3d day of June, 1889, aged eighty-three years. Our public journals have given the biography and obituary of this excellent and distinguished citizen, and have spoken in appropriate words of his personal worth in all his relations and activities. This society recognises the preservation of the memory and the incidents in the lives of such men as he, as among its most useful and interesting objects, and to that end does direct that its secretary preserve from our city papers the articles that have been published with reference to our deceased friend and fellow member. As was well befitting his personal taste, his long life and his family name, he was among the first members of the Rochester Historical society in valuable knowledge of matters within the objects of its organisation, and in the painstaking, clear and reliable manner in which he enriched the reminiscences of early events, as well as the facts of more recent progress. The papers of his which have been read before us are among our most valuable and interesting, and he brought to all matters under oral discussion a personal knowledge at once entertaining and instructive, for he had himself been a part of many matters that we have had under consideration. His place cannot be supplied, for his generation

has passed away. With grateful memories of the pleasure and satisfaction we have received from him as an associate, and saddened by his death, after even so long a life full of honor and usefulness, we direct this memorial to be entered upon our proceedings."

JANE E. ROCHESTER.

HENRY O'REILLY.—Perhaps no one individual has made a deeper and more lasting impression upon the early history of Rochester than Henry O'Reilly, one of our first newspaper editors and our first historian. He had much to do with all of our important pioneer enterprises.

Henry O'Reilly was born in Carrickmacross, Ulster county, Ireland. He died at St. Mary's hospital, Rochester, N. Y., August 17, 1886, aged eighty-one years. When but a boy he began his career in the office of the *New York Columbian*, where, as "printers' devil" he took up, with the intensity of a bright Irish lad, the advocacy of the Erie canal, secretly setting up in cold type his fiery denunciations of its opposers, and secretly slipping them into the paper as "communicated." The editors soon discovered who the writer was and promoted him at once to the editorial force, although he was then but seventeen. Not long after he was made assistant editor of the *New York Patriot*. When but twenty-two he was called to Rochester to take charge of the new daily of the Genesee country, the *first* daily newspaper of Rochester, the *Advertiser*. That was in 1826. From that time until long after his connection with the Morse magnetic telegraph, his name was associated with our public affairs. He had much to do with the selection of the site for a public cemetery, the present Mount Hope, and with the laying out of the grounds. He protested in his fiery way against the destruction of such old Indian landmarks as then remained, the cutting down of trees bearing the hatchet-marks and other signs of the Indians, and he preserved, in Indian Trail avenue in Mount Hope, a section of the route of the old Seneca trail from the head of the bay to the river.

With the Morgan affair of 1826 he was notably identified. He was the leader of one of the two Anti-Mason factions—the Jacksonian faction, represented by the *Advertiser*. Thurlow Weed, the editor of the *Anti-Masonic Enquirer*, carried the flag of the Adams party. The bitterness between these two factions of Anti-Masons exceeded that between Masons and Anti-Masons, and Thurlow Weed and Henry O'Reilly were enemies to the end of their lives. Thurlow Weed, it must be conceded, made overtures toward reconciliation more than once, but these overtures only inflamed O'Reilly the more. It was pitiful to see the serenity of his old age disturbed by every recollection of the strife, particularly if the name of his antagonist was mentioned. When Thurlow Weed's autobiography was published, in which not the slightest mention was made of Henry O'Reilly, although it gave an exhaustive version of the Morgan affair, O'Reilly naturally broke out into pamphlets, giving *his* version of the matter. The chief root of the bitterness lay in O'Reilly's having proved conclusively that the dead body found at Oak Orchard Creek, and which Weed was reported to have called "a good enough Morgan until after election," was not that of Morgan at all, and that the Batavia monument had been erected over one Timothy

Munroe, of Canada. The bitter litigation between the two rival journalists lasted for years. O'Reilly, although he became a poor man, and Weed was a rich capitalist, would neither withdraw from the courts nor compromise. His legal difficulties with Thurlow Weed, added to those with the Morse Telegraph company, sadly embittered his life. His name is identified with the Erie canal. In 1833 we find him chairman of the executive committee of Rochester on canal affairs. He wrote the first memorial in favor of enlarging and improving the canal. For many years he was chairman of the state executive committee for canal enlargement.

As author of the first "History of Rochester," we of to-day know him best. The book was a compilation of sketches which had appeared in the *Advertiser* under the heading "Settlement in the West; or, Sketches of Rochester and Western New York." It was published by William Alling in 1838. The first and only edition was 1500 copies; it retailed for $2.50 a volume. The sales were comparatively light, much as it was talked about, and the historian never made much if anything out of it. The book was never stereotyped and was soon out of the market. Mr. Alling tells the story of his setting off for New York one cold February day in 1838, in company with O'Reilly, to get a publisher for the book. O'Reilly carried the package containing the MS. They took the stage, a sleigh, in front of the Rochester House, on Exchange street, and were snugly tucked in, each passenger having provided himself with a buffalo robe and a foot stove. After five days of frost-bite and of cutting through snow drifts, and a rough passage over the Catskills, they reached New York, and author and publisher, carrying the package between them, sought the printing house of the Harpers, in Cliff street, with their history of the much-talked-of Rochester in the Genesee country.

Next to the history we remember him as associated with the telegraph, the "O'Reilly lines" of early telegraphy. When he was made postmaster of Rochester, in 1838, Amos Kendall was postmaster-general, and Kendall being one of the earliest pioneers of telegraphy, through him O'Reilly became an enthusiast in the experiment, and the first lessee of a territory for a Morse magnetic telegraph. He had faith enough in the new invention to contract for a line, although the government and the capitalists of Boston and New York were not to be beguiled into investing in one — Rochester men furnishing him the means wherewith he contracted for the extension of the Morse telegraph over a region of territory wider and more valuable than any which had been contemplated under a single assignment, connecting the seaboard line at Philadelphia with the leading western cities. In his misinterpretation of his original contract with Morse lay the root of his financial failure. While postmaster he was engaged with James Wadsworth, of Geneseo, in advocating a reform in the educational system of the state, and their united efforts, it is said, led to our present common school system. He claimed to have originated the State Constitutional association, which brought about a change in our state constitution in 1846. After his long war with the Morse Telegraph company he was in the service of the state of Iowa, improving the navigation of the Des Moines river. A few years later he was at the head of a constituency organised for the defeat of the railroad monopoly in seeking the abandonment of the Erie canal. As chairman of the Clinton league he did much to frustrate the

schemes of those opposed to the canal. When the civil war broke out he became secretary of the society for promoting the enlistment of colored troops. It would be difficult to enumerate all his pamphlets; his memorials and compilations were voluminous, and he carried on important correspondence with the leading men of his time. The New York Historical society, in receiving the great bulk of his papers, reported: "It is the most valuable collection of historical material concerning American progress, since the foundation of the republic, ever given to any institution."

He is buried in Mount Hope, a spot better loved by him than any other upon earth. The great schemes of his life had disappointed him. He had not attained success. His old age found him a poor man, although in his middle-life few had doubted that he would become one of the great capitalists of the country. It was his fate to see others reap a golden harvest where he had gleaned only thorns. But this can be said of Henry O'Reilly —he never disappointed his friends, he never failed in being the true Irish gentleman.

JANE MARSH PARKER.

DR. CHESTER DEWEY.—Dr. Chester Dewey was born in Sheffield, Mass., October 25, 1784. He died in Rochester December 15, 1867. He was graduated from Williams college in 1806, and was ordained in 1808. For seventeen years he was professor of mathematics and natural philosophy in Williams college, and during this time he did much to advance the standard of scholarship and to enlarge the course of study in this institution. He never ceased to love the institution, and by word and deed ever aided in its progress. He began to teach in Rochester in 1836. From that time his influence was marked and was everywhere felt in the young city, for it had been but two years a city when Dr. Dewey found his home here. For many years he was professor of chemistry and natural philosophy in our university, and occupied this position until within a few years of his death. He loved teaching, for he loved the young and enjoyed their society, and was eminently successful as an instructor. He was a true naturalist; every thing in nature was a joy to him. In all his teaching his aim was to lift the thoughts of the learners above the thing itself to the designer of all the curious, the wonderful, the beautiful, that came under their observation. He was the author of several botanical treatises. He wrote a history of the herbaceous plants of Massachusetts, for the state government. He took up the subject of the carices of North America and for forty-two years contributed papers on caricography to the *American Journal of Science*. He was specially an authority upon this subject. A monograph upon this subject, embodying the results of many years of labor, was left to Williams college. His entire life was given to scientific pursuits, and he held a high position among the naturalists of the world. The papers he contributed to the various journals attracted the attention of the leading botanists of Europe. A correspondence was begun, and continued for years, leading to discussions on all scientific subjects. The true place of man in zoölogy was a subject that was discussed with great zeal. Dr. Dewey examined the reasonings that were put forth against the unity of mankind and wrote many convincing papers founded on scientific facts, proving that all nations were one and the same

family. Many titles were conferred upon him. That of M. D. was conferred by Yale in 1825, D. D. by Union in 1838, L. L. D. by Williams in 1850.

Dr. Dewey was free from dogmatism. He aimed to lift the souls of men above the stoop and cramp of prejudice, and so fashion the thoughts of the young that discussions in science or changes of opinion on theology would not crush out belief, but broaden the domain of thought, lift up and enlarge the way of life, as he would bring a cup of water to thirsty lips. His enthusiasm and his love of science were as broad as his love of mankind. He wished all to partake and seek for new and grand results. His acts and life were not heralded abroad; the full story of his life could be seen and read, only by those who knew him and his teachings, and these may be numbered by thousands. His heart was tender as a little child's, it had been touched from heaven, he had been taught sacred wisdom, his thoughts were ever lifted to the source of all good, and to that source he gave all praise. Nothing passed unnoticed, however small, or weak, for he was genuinely a humble man, a real seeker after truth.

The life of any man who leaves a lasting impress of right living upon all with whom he comes in contact, moulding character, encouraging the timid, lending a helping hand to the weak, can never be forgotten; such a man was Dr. Dewey. He was always ready to help. It was not to-morrow, but to-day, the aid was given, whether in science, philosophy or literature. He was skilled and clear in exposition, a true friend and instructor. He was ever ready to consider new ideas, and if they were proven to be facts or scientific truths he accepted them. When the science of geology was just making its way through the thick prejudice and strong resistance made by those who believed it to be contrary to the teachings of the Bible, Dr. Dewey loved the science, and saw no reason why it should weaken the faith of any who would allow themselves to think, or investigate in an unprejudiced manner. He directed the attention of the people to everything that tended to prove the truth of the science.

Dr. Dewey never grew old, but ever loved the companionship of the young; anything peculiar or interesting in geology or botany, a stone or a flower, he sought out some class and explained every part with clearness and precision. All was done so gently, with such courtesy, under all circumstances, that the recipient felt no awkwardness or fear of trespassing upon his time or good will. He did it as if this one thing, above all others, was what pleased him most to do. No wonder he attracted and retained the love of all who knew him; such courtesy is a rare gift, and assures the possessor of a power and influence incomparable. Conventional forms of politeness are common in society, as such, but Dr. Dewey carried this Christian grace, for I must so designate it, ever with him. Each individual felt that he was a real friend, worthy of the highest consideration and affection.

During his life Dr. Dewey preached a great many sermons and gave a still greater number of lectures. He frequently lectured before medical classes as well as before classes in the other departments of science. He was active in the advancement of the public schools; organised the first teachers' institute, and for many years he made daily meteorological reports. His helping hand was everywhere felt. He was one of the founders and advisers of Plymouth church, and frequently supplied its pulpit in the absence of a regular pastor. He tried to avoid everything that would divert the mind

from the highest and purest subjects; the foundation of all goodness was love, from this fountain all could partake and life be filled with it. To point to this fountain, to seek knowledge in nature, to behold the love of the All-Father as expressed in his works, to lead up to the divine source of all love, was the glorious life-work of Dr. Dewey.

C. M. CURTIS.

GEN. A. W. RILEY.—The committee appointed to prepare a memorial of Gen. Ashbel W. Riley, to place upon the records of the society, presented the following at the meeting held June 14, 1888: In recording our tribute of respect for the character and services of our late and distinguished citizen, Gen. Ashbel W. Riley, it seems a suitable occasion to express our high appreciation of the character and labors of the pioneers and founders of our city. Mostly of New England extraction, they brought with them the indomitable spirit of enterprise, the moral and physical force and courage of the Pilgrim fathers and their descendants, who stamped New England with the distinguishing mark as a land of noble men and patriots. Among our pioneers, Gen. Riley was a conspicuous figure, and one of the foremost in his endeavors to promote the moral and Christian character of the community, and they failed not to secure for our then village the reputation of being a community of exceptionally high Christian character and moral tone. He was intimately identified with the social and public life of our city. Coming here in 1816, he was, at his death, the oldest resident who settled here in his manhood. He was a trustee of the village as early as 1824, and a member of the first board of aldermen under the municipal government in 1834. Since that year he had received no public preferment.

Gen. Riley was a man of uncommon energy and moral and physical courage; nothing daunted by difficulties or opposition, he labored zealously with all his capacity and powers in every enterprise in which he engaged. His chief object of effort was the temperance cause, and this was not limited to the city or county in which he dwelt, but extended to other cities and even foreign lands. He deserves to be ranked with Theobald Matthew as an apostle of temperance. He did not possess the gift of eloquence of a Gough and many other advocates of the cause, but he fortified his position with an array of facts and reasons more potent than eloquent. He was an active promoter of the cause of Sunday schools, the due observance of the Sabbath, and the free distribution of the Bible to all who were destitute of a copy in our county.

That dreaded scourge, the Asiatic cholera, when it first appeared in our city in 1832, had no terror for him, but with a noble devotion and self-sacrificing and fearless spirit he labored assiduously in visiting and waiting on the victims of that pestilence, and with his own hands placing very many of the dead in their coffins and carrying them to their burial. He emphasised his benevolent works by devoting his best energies in prosecuting them to within a short period of his death, at the advanced age of ninety-three years. In all his labors he evinced the character of a philanthropist and eminently useful citizen, and his name deserves to be inscribed on the roll of honor among our worthy and noble pioneers.

HENRY E. ROCHESTER,
FRED. A. WHITTLESEY,
CHAS. E. FITCH,
Committee.

HENRY E. PECK. — At the meeting of the Historical society held December 13, 1889, Mrs. Parker, who had just returned from Port au Prince, Hayti, read a paper, "Rochester in Hayti," a memorial of Minister Peck, who died there of yellow fever in 1867. The following is an abridgment of her paper:

Henry Everard Peck was born in Rochester, July 27, 1821. From the old high school he went to Bowdoin college, where he graduated in 1841. From there he passed to the Lane theological seminary, in Ohio, and was afterward a student of the Auburn (N. Y.) theological seminary. He completed his studies at Oberlin, O., and began his duties as an ordained clergyman in "the mission" of Frankfort, in Rochester. In 1852 he accepted the chair of history and belles lettres in Oberlin college, preaching regularly in addition to his duties as an educator. It was here that he became notably identified with the cause of Abolition. He was not only ready to give practical aid to fugitives from slavery, but was the fearless advocate of measures for the abolition of slavery, and that when such advocacy meant a self-sacrifice akin to martyrdom. He was foremost among "the Wellington rescuers," those forerunners of John Brown. The Wellington rescuers included Professor Langston and other prominent Abolitionists, and in the summer of 1859 we find Professor Peck, with several of his *confreres*, lying in the Cleveland jail, the United States government refusing to bring their case to trial. Finally the United States district attorney moved a *nolle prosequi*, and the prisoners were discharged.

In March, 1865, Professor Peck was appointed United States commissioner to Hayti, the office being raised to that of minister resident before his death. A wise, discreet diplomatist was particularly needed in the representative of the United States just then. . . . On his way to Port au Prince, with his family, in June, 1865, he was shipwrecked on a coral reef some twelve miles off the Bermudas, involving a loss to him of some thousands of dollars. He was obliged to return to New York and start again for his destination, which he finally reached in safety.

Sunday evening, June 9, 1867, Henry E. Peck died of yellow fever at his villa on the heights overlooking the capital of Hayti. His remains are buried in Oberlin, Ohio, where he was, for so long, a beloved teacher and pastor. His surviving family of wife, daughter and two sons, is scattered among the western states.

HIRAM SIBLEY.—Hiram Sibley, a member of the board of managers of the Rochester Historical society from its organisation until his death, was born in North Adams, Mass., February 6, 1807, and died in Rochester, July 12, 1888. For half a century he was one of the most active and enterprising citizens of Western New York. His direction of large business enterprises gave him a national reputation, and his generous gifts to educational and charitable institutions have enrolled his name among the prominent philanthropists of America. Receiving an ordinary school education, he employed himself in various mechanical vocations in his native place until he was sixteen years of age, when he moved to Livingston county, in this state, afterward establishing himself at Mendon, Monroe county, where he had a foundry and machine shop. While residing in Mendon he was

elected sheriff of the county, and moved to Rochester in 1841, where he resided during the rest of his life.

Early becoming interested in the electric telegraph, he did much by his personal efforts to secure from Congress the appropriation necessary to enable Prof. Morse to continue his experiments, and, with signal foresight, invested largely in the stock of the early telegraph companies, which, chiefly through his persuasion, were finally united in one corporation, which has subsequently assumed mammoth proportions. Thus Mr. Sibley laid the foundations of a princely fortune, and was the first president of the Western Union Telegraph company, a position which he held for sixteen years, the number of operating offices increasing during that period from one hundred and thirty-two to over four thousand, and the value of the property from $220,000 to $48,000,000. His faith in the development of the system was ardent, and his plans were comprehensive, embracing the completion of the trans-continental line ten years in advance of the Pacific railway, and contemplating the uniting of the two hemispheres by way of Alaska and Siberia, a project abandoned only when the cable was laid beneath the Atlantic ocean.

Disposing of his telegraphic interests, Mr. Sibley afterward engaged in railway, banking, and mercantile affairs, always on an extensive scale, and with profitable returns, and continued, to the last, active and influential. To the University of Rochester he gave a fine library building, and of Cornell university he was one of the most liberal benefactors, the Sibley college of the mechanic arts being his enduring monument. He was a man of noble presence, of commanding will and of versatile ability, and his name will long be held in honorable remembrance.

C. E. F.

James L. Angle.—The Rochester Historical society sustained a severe loss in the death of Judge James L. Angle. He was the third elected president of the society and one of its original board of managers, but his interest therein was not confined to his official position, for he was one of the most valued contributors of papers noteworthy for their depth of research, while his remarks upon the productions of others and upon matters pertaining to the early history of this region were always listened to with profound attention. Judge Angle was born in the town of Henrietta, in this county, December 19, 1818. His boyhood was spent on his father's farm, where his physical labor through the summer rendered him all the better fitted for effective study during the rest of the year, so that at the age of sixteen he obtained the position of teacher in the district school where he had been a pupil. This continued till 1840, when he came to Rochester for the study of law, to which he devoted himself in the offices, successively, of Gay & Stevens, Haight & Chase, and Sackett & Chase, till 1845, when he was admitted to the bar as solicitor in chancery. He practised law continuously from that time till the day of his death, but his fellow citizens demanded his services at different times in matters of political and other interests outside of his profession.

In 1851 and 1852 he was the clerk of the board of supervisors, in 1854 he

was elected a member of the legislature, the next year he was chosen a member of the board of supervisors, and in 1857 he was appointed city attorney. Being in the board again in 1863 he was chosen chairman and also served at the head of the committee on bounties and recruiting, having in charge a fund of more than $1,000,000. Having filled in 1877 the position of justice of the Supreme court of the state, by appointment, he was, after a nomination and failure of election in the following year, elected to the same office in 1883, continuing on the bench till the beginning of 1889, when he retired, having reached the constitutional limit of seventy years. Among the other offices, of a more private character, that he held, were those of member of the board of trustees of the Home for the Friendless, of the board of trustees of the Unitarian church and of the board of directors of the Monroe County savings bank, of which last named institution he was the attorney for ten years. In his early days he was greatly interested in military affairs and attained prominence as the commander of the Union Greys, of which organisation, after its disbandment as an active company, he was the president for the last thirty years of his life.

Judge Angle was a man of the most sterling integrity of character, purity of life and amiability of disposition, so that he possessed not only the esteem of all his fellow-citizens but the affectionate regard of everyone who knew him. He died May 4, 1891, at his summer residence in the town of Greece, being stricken down while engaged in his favorite recreation of working in his garden. Death came to him without warning, but it found him not unprepared. At a meeting of the Historical society, held four days later, the presiding officer, Dr. A. H. Strong, made the following remarks, which were ordered entered on the records of the society:

"It is my sad duty to announce to this society the death last Monday of its president, Judge Angle. You will all remember how, at our last meeting, Judge Angle was elected to this office, and how, with his usual modesty, he assumed the new dignity and took the chair. We honored ourselves when we honored him, and we anticipated for him an active and useful year of service. It was the last public honor of many public honors bestowed upon him by his fellow-citizens during the course of his long and busy life. He had passed his allotment of threescore years and ten; his erect and stately form was familiar to us all. His life in business, in the courts and in society was open to the inspection of all. No suspicion of a stain ever attached itself to his character. Of him we can truly say:

> 'Whatever record leaps to light,
> He never shall be shamed.'

He solaced his leisure with literature. Few men have known their Shakespeare as well as Judge Angle, and few could render the thoughts of Shakespeare so charmingly. He was a natural antiquarian and a born student of history. He was one of the founders of this society. Too early taken away, we mourn his loss, and of him we can say:

> 'Only the actions of the just
> Smell sweet and blossom in the dust.'"

W. F. P.

CONSTITUTION OF THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

1. This society shall be called "The Rochester Historical Society."

2. The object of the society shall be to discover, procure and preserve whatever may relate to the history of the city of Rochester, and of those adjacent localities which, in their historical growth or commercial relations, are intimately connected with the interests of this city.

3. The society shall consist of resident and honorary members; the former being persons who reside in the county of Monroe, and the latter persons who reside elsewhere.

4. The officers of the society shall consist of a president, a vice-president, a recording secretary, a corresponding secretary, a treasurer and a librarian. These officers shall be elected annually and by ballot.

5. In addition to the above-named officers, there shall be a board of managers, consisting of the president of the society and seven persons appointed annually by him. The duties of this board shall be to solicit and receive donations for the society, to recommend plans for the promotion of the general purposes of the society and to perform such other duties of an executive nature as may from time to time be committed to it.

6. All members, whether resident or honorary, shall be admitted to the society only upon the nomination of the board of managers, and by a majority of ballots of the members present at a regular meeting subsequent to the regular meeting upon which the nomination has been made.

7. All resident members shall pay on admission the sum of five dollars, and the sum of two dollars annually, which payments shall be the condition of retaining the privileges of membership in the society.

8. The payment by any resident or honorary member of the sum of fifty dollars, at any one time and for that purpose, shall constitute such person a life member, and shall thereafter exempt him from any further annual dues.

9. This constitution may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the members present at any regular meeting, provided a notice of the proposed amendment has been given at the next preceding regular meeting of the society.

10. All persons present at the two preliminary meetings of organisation shall become members of this society upon paying the initiation fee within thirty days.

BY-LAWS.

1. The meetings of this society shall be held at such times and places as the president (or, in his absence, the recording secretary) shall designate. Notices of meetings shall be given to resident members by mail, or by publication in the city daily papers, and any meeting may be adjourned to such time and place as a majority of the members present shall determine.

2. The president shall preside at all meetings and have a casting vote and perform the duties usually appertaining to the office of president. He shall also be chairman of the board of managers.

3. The vice-president shall discharge all the duties of the president in case of the absence of the latter.

4. The recording secretary shall have the custody of the constitution, by-laws and records of the society. He shall give due notice of all the meetings and keep a record of the meetings. He shall be secretary of the board of managers and keep a record of its proceedings.

5. The corresponding secretary shall have the custody of all letters and communications to the society, shall read to the society all communications received as secretary, and under the direction of the society prepare all communications to be addressed to others in the name of the society, and keep true copies of the same.

6. The librarian, under the direction of the board of managers, shall have the custody of the library and cabinet, including all manuscripts, papers, documents, coins and maps, and shall provide cases suitable for their preservation and for convenient reference and inspection and shall keep a record of all donations and report the same to the secretary.

7. The treasurer shall perform all the duties usually appertaining to the office of treasurer, and deposit the funds of the society in such bank as the board of managers shall designate, pay out such funds as the board of managers shall direct, on the written warrant of the chairman of the board of managers, and shall keep an account of the funds and render an annual statement thereof, and oftener if called upon to do so by the society.

8. It shall be the duty of the board of managers to manage the affairs of the society and its funds, and make an annual report to the society.

9. All books, maps, and property of the society shall be plainly marked with the name of the society and numbered and entered in the catalogue by the librarian and arranged for convenient reference. No books or other property shall be taken from the library or cabinet without the written permission of the president.

10. The by-laws may be suspended temporarily by unanimous vote and amended by a majority vote at any meeting, provided notice of the proposed amendment be given at a previous meeting and also in the notice of the meeting at which it is to be done.

11. Any member may be expelled by a two-thirds vote of any meeting, provided notice of the intention to move for such expulsion is given in the notice of the meeting at least one month previous thereto.

12. The order of business at any meeting shall be as follows, subject to change by a majority vote at such meeting:

1. Reading of the minutes of the previous meeting.
2. Communications from the president, board of managers or officers.
3. Miscellaneous business.
4. Reading of papers.
5. Discussion of papers.

DIGEST OF THE MEETINGS.

December 17, 1887.— Preliminary; committee on organisation appointed.

March 3, 1888. — Organisation effected; constitution adopted; officers elected.

April 6, 1888.— By-laws adopted; appeal to the public adopted; paper by Jane Marsh Parker — subject, "John Galt's Novel of 'Laurie Todd.'"

June 14, 1888.— Paper by Mrs. Parker — subject, "The Opening of the Genesee Country;" memorial of Gen. Riley presented by the committee and adopted.

November 30, 1888. — Address by Henry E. Rochester on the subject of riparian rights on the Genesee river; paper by Mrs. Parker — subject, "Mary Jemison, the White Woman of the Genesee."

January 4, 1889. — Paper by George Moss — subject, "Three Episodes in the History of the Genesee Valley;" paper by H. E. Rochester — subject, "The One-Hundred-Acre-Tract Title."

February 1, 1889. — Program, by Prof. W. C. Morey, adopted, for the preparation of papers and the preservation of historical records; paper by H. E. Rochester — subject, "The Genesee River and Western New York."

April 5, 1889. — Annual report of the treasurer; report of the recording secretary from the beginning of the society; election of officers; paper by Howard L. Osgood — subject, "The Phelps and Gorham Purchase."

May 3, 1889. — Paper by Mrs. Parker — subject, "Rochester in Ancient History;" paper by H. E. Rochester — subject, "Inventions Made since the Settlement of Rochester."

June 13, 1889. — Memorial of Henry E. Rochester read by Judge James L. Angle and adopted; paper by George H. Harris — subject, "The Aboriginal History of the Genesee Country and its Terminology;" poetical tribute to Mr. Rochester, by Mrs. C. M. Curtis; memorial of Henry O'Reilly, by Mrs. Parker.

November 9, 1889. — Paper by Mr. Harris — subject, "Pioneers of the Genesee Valley — the Markhams;" paper by George H. Ely, read by Mrs. Seth H. Terry — subject, "The Artist Spy;" paper by Judge Angle on the colonial laws up to 1664.

December 13, 1889. — Verbal report, by Charles E. Fitch, from the committee on perpetuating the name of Carroll; poem by Mrs. Katherine J. Dowling, entitled "Gleanings;" reminiscences of Henry E. Peck, by Mrs. Parker.

January 10, 1890. — Paper by Rev. Dr. F. DeW. Ward — subject, "Reminiscences of Rochester from 1817 to 1830."

February 14, 1890. — Paper by S. A. Ellis — subject, "The Public Schools of Rochester."

March 14, 1890. — Sketch of Dr. Chester Dewey, by Mrs. Curtis; paper by Herve D. Wilkins — subject, "Music in Rochester."

April 7, 1890. — Election of officers; paper by Judge Angle — subject, "The Antiquities of Mount Hope;" paper by the late Seth H. Terry, read by Mrs. Terry — subject, "The Last Indian Sacrifice."

May 9, 1890. — Paper by Mr. Moss — subject, "Transportation in the Early Days of Western New York."

June 13, 1890. — Paper by Mrs. Emil Kuichling, on Mrs. M. B. Anderson.

November 14, 1890. — Paper by Dr. Ward — subject, "Rochester's First Things."

December 12, 1890. — Paper by Mrs. William S. Little — subject, "The Story of the Massacre of Cherry Valley."

January 9, 1891 — Paper by Mr. Osgood — subject, "The One-Hundred-Acre Tract;" letter read from Hon. Wm. C. Bryant, of Buffalo, concerning the Cherry Valley massacre.

February 13, 1891. — Paper by Mr. Fitch — subject, "Interviewing a Statesman."

March 13, 1891. — Paper by Charles H. Wiltsie — subject, "Reminiscences of Mrs. Hiram Blanchard;" verbal recollections of Rochester, by Col. J. W. Bissell; report, by Mr. Wiltsie, from the committee on the old sun-dial; paper by the recording secretary, regarding Leonard W. Jerome.

April 10, 1891. — Election of officers; paper by Prof. H. L. Fairchild — subject, "The Geology of the Region of the Genesee River;" paper on early Rochester by Col. Bissell, read by Mr. Fitch.

May 8, 1891. — Memorial of Judge Angle, by Dr. A. H. Strong, adopted; report, by Clinton Rogers, from the committee on Enos Stone's house.

November 13, 1891. — Paper by Dr. E. M. Moore — subject, "The Story of the Rochester Parks."

December 11, 1891. — Paper by George H. Humphrey — subject, "Old East Avenue;" paper by Mrs. Parker — subject, "Reminiscences of Mrs. Eliza M. Reid."

OFFICERS OF THE SOCIETY.

PRESIDENT,

Rev. AUGUSTUS H. STRONG, D. D.

VICE-PRESIDENT,

Hon. CHARLES E. FITCH.

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY,

JANE MARSH PARKER.

RECORDING SECRETARY,

WILLIAM F. PECK.

TREASURER,

CHARLES H. WILTSIE.

LIBRARIAN,

HOWARD L. OSGOOD.

BOARD OF MANAGERS,

Rev. A. H. STRONG, D. D., *ex officio*,
MORTIMER F. REYNOLDS,
GEORGE E. MUMFORD,
WILLIAM C. MOREY,
JOHN H. ROCHESTER,
Hon. CHARLES E. FITCH,
S. A. ELLIS.

LIST OF MEMBERS.[1]

Adams, Myron.
Allen, George H., of Brockport.
Allen, Oliver, of Mumford.
Andrews, E. R.
Angell, E. B.
Angle, Mrs. J. L.
Arnold, George.
Atkinson, Hobart F.
Backus, Azel.
Barnard, Henry.
Barry, Wm. C.
Bower, John.
Brewster, Henry C.
Brown, Selden S.
Buell, George C.
Clarkson, Geo. G.
Cook, Frederick.
Cooke, M. W.
Craig, Oscar.
Cronise, Adelbert.
Curtis, Mrs. C. M.
Cutler, J. G.
Danforth, Geo. F.
Darrow, Erastus.
Dewey, C. A.
Doolittle, Mary A.
Doty, W. D'Orville.
Dowling, Mrs. K. J.
Durand, F. L.
Ellis, S. A.
Ellwanger, George.
Elwood, F. W.
Elwood, G. M.
Ely, Alfred.
Ely, Wm. S.
Fairchild, H. L.
Farley, Porter.
Farrar, Raleigh.
Fitch, C. E.
Frost, Edw. A.
Gannett, W. C.
Gates, Mrs. C. R.
Gibbard, Isaac.
Gilmore, J. H.
Greenleaf, H. S.
Griffith, Mrs. Julia M.
Hall, Elizabeth P.
Harris, Edward.
Harris, George H.
Hart, Mrs. Roswell.
Hawks, Haywood.
Hill, David J.
Hill, John H.
Hollister, G. A.
Hollister, G. C.
Holmes, Daniel, of Brockport.
Hopkins, Mrs. Alice.
Howe, Jacob.
Humphrey, Geo. H.
Hunt, Daniel T.
Huntington, Elon.
Kimball, W. S.
Landsberg, Max.
Lattimore, S. A.
Lee, William B.
Little, Wm. S.
Lomb, Henry.
Loomis, George W.
Lowe, Samuel H.
Macomber, F. A.
Macy, Silvanus J.
Markham, William G., of Rush.
Mathews, Robert.
Millard, Nelson.
Mixer, A. H.
Montgomery, Thomas C.
Moore, Edward M.
Moore, Mrs. Mary D.
Moore, Samuel P.
Morey, William C.
Morse, C. C.
Moss, George.
Mumford, George E.
McClintock, J. Y.
McNaughton, Donald.
McVean, Alexander.
O'Connor, Joseph.
Oothout, John W.

[1] By resolution of the society, the membership of one includes that of all others in the family.

Osgood, Howard.
Osgood, Howard L.
Otis, Ira L.
Paine, Cyrus F.
Parker, Jane Marsh.
Parsons, C. R.
Peck, Myron G.
Peck, William F.
Perkins, Gilman H.
Perkins, Mrs. W. H.
Perrin, Darius.
Phinney, H. K.
Pitkin, Mrs. Louisa L.
Putnam, Earl B.
Reynolds, John A.
Reynolds, M. F.
Riley, George S.
Riley, Mrs. M. E.
Robinson, Arthur.
Roby, Sidney B.
Rochester, Jane E.
Rochester, John H.
Roe, John O.
Rogers, Clinton.
Ross, Lewis P.
Sibley, Mrs. Hiram.
Sibley, Hiram W.
Sibley, Rufus A.
Skinner, James A., of Brockport.
Smith, Mrs. E. Darwin.
Smith, Mrs. Edward M.
Smith, George H.
Smith, J. Moreau.
Stoddard, E. V.
Strong, Augustus H.
Strong, Henry A.
Strong, Mrs. Maltby.
Terry, Mrs. Seth H.
True, Benj. O.
Vredenburgh, E. H.
Ward, William H.
Warner, Clara D.
Warner, John B. Y.
Westervelt, Z. F.
Whitbeck, John W.
Whittlesey, F. A.
Wilkins, Herve D.
Wiltsie, Charles H.
Woodworth, C. B.

HONORARY MEMBERS.

Bryant, William C., of Buffalo.
Conover, George S., of Geneva.
Hamilton, William, of Caledonia.
Johnson, James G., of Salamanca.
Minard, John S., of Fillmore.
Nisbet, William, of Avon.
Proctor, L. B., of Albany.
Van Zandt, William, of Avon.

DECEASED MEMBERS.

Alling, Stephen Y.
Angle, James L.
Barry, Patrick.
Clarke, Mrs. Freeman.
Elliott, George W.
Morgan, Dayton S., of Brockport.
Rochester, Henry E.
Sibley, Hiram.
Smith, Charles F.
Ward, F. DeW., of Geneseo.
Wright, Alfred.

LIST OF BOOKS

IN THE

LIBRARY OF THE ROCHESTER HISTORICAL SOCIETY

American Annual Register, 1832–3. N. Y., 1835.
American Farmer. Monthly Journal. Rochester, 1866.
American Register, 1806–1808. 3 v., Philadelphia, 1807–8.
American Humane Association. Eleventh Annual Meeting, held at Rochester, Oct. 19–21, 1887. Chicago, 1888.
American State Papers, 1789–1815. 8 v., Boston, 1815.
Anderson (F. L.). Sermon in memory of M. B. Anderson and of his wife, March 9, 1890.
Anderson (Martin B.). Work and Aims of the University of Rochester. Commencement Address, June 28, 1876. Rochester, 1876.
Angevine (Edward). Guide or Handbook for Mt. Hope Cemetery. Rochester, 1885.
Anti-Masonic Convention (U. S.), Proceedings. Philadelphia, Sept. 11, 1830.
Anstice (Henry). Annals of St. Luke's Church, 1817–83, and Historical Sketches of the other Parishes. Rochester, 1883.
American Expedition in Search of Sir John Franklin. Rochester, 1852.
Barber (J. W.) and Howe (H.). Historical Collections of the State of New York. New York, 1841.
Bartlett (D. K.). Sermon on the death of Mary Eliza McAlpine. Rochester, 1867.
Barry (Patrick). The Horticulturist. Monthly Journal. 2 v., 1853–4.
—The Fruit Garden. Auburn, 1853.
Beach (A. C.). Centennial Celebration New York State. Albany, 1879.
Bernard (David). Light on Masonry. Utica, 1829.
Bernhard, Duke of Saxe Weimar. Travels through North America during the years 1825–1826. 2 v., Philadelphia, 1828.
Bible, King James Version (contains the family record of Nathaniel Rochester). Philadelphia, 1812.
Bickerstaff (Bridget). Works. Rochester, 1842,
Billington (L. W.). Review of A. J. Davis' Revelation. Rochester, 1840.
Board of Health. Report on Cholera in Rochester in 1852. Rochester, 1852.
—Laws and Ordinances, 1863.
—Health Officers Annual Report, 1867, 1883.
Bonney (Cath. V. R.). Legacy of Historical Gleanings. 2 v., Albany, 1875.
Boughton (Joseph). The Conspiracy, or The Triumph of Innocence. Rochester, 1845.

Boundaries of State of New York. Reports of Regents. 2 v., Albany, 1874, 1884.
—New York and Pennsylvania Boundary. Report of Boundary Commission, with final Report of H. W. Clarke, Surveyor for the Commission. Albany, 1886.
Bowen (Clarence W.). The Boundary Disputes of Connecticut. Boston, 1882.
Boyd (Wm. P.). History of Town of Conesus, with brief Genealogical Record of Conesus families. Conesus, 1887.
Brewster (H. Pomeroy). The House that Jack Built; from Journal Am. Folk Lore. n. p., n. d.
—A Jimmal of Gold. Rochester. n. d.
Brick Church. Catalogue and Manual, 1842. Rochester, 1842.
Bridel (Louis). Le Pour et le Contre . . . suivi d'une description du Kentucky et du Genesy. Paris, 1803.
Brown (Henry). Narrative of the Anti-Masonick Excitement in Western New York, 1826–9. Batavia, 1829.
Brown (Sylvester). Appeal against Imprisonment for Debt in Canada West. n. p., 1859.
Bryant (W. Clement). Interesting Archæological Studies in and about Buffalo. Buffalo, 1890.
Buffalo Historical Society.
—Annual Reports, 1883–91.
—Constitution and By-Laws, 1863.
—Constitution and By-Laws, as amended, 1868.
—Proceedings, 1869–70.
—Publications, 1879–80.
Butts (A. P.). Rhythmical Panorama of Early Pioneer Life. Rochester, 1890.
Campbell (Douglass). How the Written Ballot Came into the United States. Schenectady, 1880.
Campbell (William W.). Annals of Tryon county, New York, 1849.
Canals — Laws of New York in relation to the Erie and Champlain. 2 v., Albany, 1825.
Canal Management, New York State Report, 1868. Albany, 1868.
Canal Regulations. Rates of Toll, &c. Albany, 1844.
Chamber of Commerce. First Annual Report, 1888. Rochester, 1889.
Chapin (G. H.). Address before Domestic Horticultural Society of Western New York., Sept. 21, 1831. Lyons, 1831.
Chapman (J. A.). Sketch of the History of Wyoming. Wilkesbarre, 1830.
Charter of Rochester.
—Charter and Directory, 1834. Rochester, 1834.
—Charter, with amendments. Rochester, 1839.
—Revised Charter, 1844, 1850, 1851–6, 1861, 1868, 1871, 1874. 7 v., Rochester, 1844–'74.
—Amendments to, 1858.
—Amendments to, 1862.
Chase (Jacob). A Defence of Truth. Rochester, 1841.
Childs (Gilbert C.). Address before Veteran Soldiers of Parma and the old 13th of Rochester, Aug. 20, 1879. Rochester, 1879.
Church Home. Manual, 1870, 1876–7, 1884–5, 1887–8, 1889–90, 1890–91.
City Hospital. Report, 1872. Rochester, 1873.
Clark (J. W.) John Baptist; a Poem delivered before Union Lyceum, Lyons. Geneva, 1846.

Closet. Monthly Religious Paper, edited by David Slie. Rochester, 1845–7.
Cochrane (James C.). Memorial of; 1824–1881. Rochester, 1881.
Coit (John T.). Discourse at funeral of Levi Ward, Jan. 7, 1861.
Commerce, Manufactures and Resources of Rochester. 1881.
Commerce, Manufactures and Resources of Rochester. 1884.
Common Council of Rochester. Proceedings, 1852–1887. (Lacks 1857–8, 1861–2, 1862–3, 1863–4, 1865–8, 1869–70, 1872–3, 1875–80, 1882–86.)
—Rules and Orders, 1849, 1852.
—Manuals, 1860, 1876, 1881.
Conover (Geo. S.). The Genesee Tract. Geneva, 1889.
—Early History of Geneva. Geneva, 1880.
—(Compiler). Journals of the Military Expedition against the Six Nations of Indians in 1779. Auburn, 1887.
Constitution of the United States, with Acts relating to Slavery, including the Nebraska and Kansas Bill. Rochester, 1854.
Cornell (Silas). Letter to E. F. Marshall and others, on their Pamphlet entitled "The Inquisition and Orthodoxy." Rochester, 1830.
Craftsman, The. Weekly Newspaper, edited by E. J. Roberts. 2 v., Rochester, 1829–30.
C. M. W. "How." Rochester, 1886.
Crapsey (A. S.). Sermon in memory of H. B. Ellwanger, 1883.
Crèvecœur (Hector St. John de). Voyage dans la Haute Pensylvanie et dans l'Etat de New York. 3 v. and Atlas. Paris, 1801.
Darling (Charles W.). New Amsterdam, New Orange, New York, with Chronological Data. Privately printed, 1889.
Day (David F.). Address Commemorative of Geo. W. Clinton. Buffalo, 1890.
Diocese of Western New York. Semi-Centennial Commemoration. Buffalo, 1888.
Diocese of Western New York. Annual Conventions, 1851, 1853, 1855, 1861, 1864–68, 1870–1, 1875–6, 1881, 1885, 1888–90.
Directory, Rochester, 1834, 1838, 1841, 1844–59, 1861, 1863–85. 34 v., Rochester, 1834–85.
Documents relating to Colonial History of New York State. Vols 1–10, edited by E. B. O'Callaghan. General Index by E. B. O'Callaghan. Index by J. R. Broadhead. Vol. 12 by B. Fernow. 13 v., i–x, xii and two Indexes. Albany, 1845–77.
Dolley (Sarah R. A.). Closing Lecture to Class of 1873–74, Women's Medical College, Pennsylvania.
Doty (Lockwood L.). History of Livingston Co., N. Y. Geneseo, 1876.
Douglass (William). British Settlements in North America. 2 v., London, 1755.
Durrie (Daniel S.). Index to American Genealogies and Pedigrees. Albany, 1886.
Duyckink (E. A.). History of the War for the Union. New York, 1862.
Early History of Rochester, 1810 to 1827. Rochester, 1860.
Edwards (Tryon, Pastor First Presbyterian Church). Thanksgiving Sermon, Dec. 15, 1836. Rochester, 1837.
Ellicott (Andrew). Journal of. Philadelphia, 1803.
Ellinwood (F. F.). Discourse at Funeral of Orlando Hastings, March 22, 1861.
Elliott (G. W.). Rochester Municipal Manual and Monroe County Register. Rochester, 1887.
—Year Book. "Union and Advertiser," 1888–89.
—In memoriam. 1851–83.

Evans (Geo. G., Editor). Illustrated History U. S. Mint. Philadelphia, 1888.
Ely (Joseph A.). In memoriam, President J. A. Garfield, 1831–81. Poem and Sermon.
—The Well at Bethlehem's Gate. A Poem. Rochester, 1869.
Ely Reunion. Held at Lyme, Conn., July 10, 1878. New York, 1879.
Fancy Party, The. Jan. 18, 1847. Rochester, 1847.
Fancy Dress Party at Mrs. Greenough's. Poem on. Jan. 18, 1847.
Fifth Ward Poll List, Nov., 1844. (Ms.)
Fifty-First Regiment New York Volunteers. Quarter Century Banquet. New York, 1886.
Fire Department. Charter, By-Laws and History, 1817 to 1882. Also, Dedication of Firemen's Monument. Rochester, 1883.
Francis (J. E.). Lincoln Memorial Collection. Buffalo, 1887.
Fuller (John, Medium). Reports from the Celestial Court. Rochester, 1853.
Furman (C. E.). Divine Songs and other Poems. Rochester, 1874.
—The Valley of the Genesee; a poem. Rochester, 1879.
Galt (John). Lawrie Todd; or, The Settlers in the Woods. 2 v., New York, 1830.
Gardiner (Addison). In memoriam, 1797–1883.
Genealogical Records of the Pioneer Families in Avon, N. Y. Rochester, 1871.
Genesee Consociation. Reply to letter of Rev. Joseph Emerson on subject of their Resolution relative to Masonic ministers and Masonic candidates for the ministry. Rochester, 1829.
Genesee Farmer. Weekly paper, edited by N. Goodsell, L. Tucker, Daniel Lee and others. 7 v., i–vi, vi new series. Rochester, 1831–6, 1845.
Genesee Farmer (New). 2 vols. in 1, Rochester, 1843.
Gilbert (Benj. and his family). Captivity and Sufferings of; who were surprised by the Indians on the frontier of Pennsylvania in the spring of 1780. Reprinted; Lancaster, Pa., 1890.
—Same. London, 1785.
Gliddon (Thomas). History of Hamilton Chapter (2d ed.). Rochester, n. d. By-Laws and History of Monroe Commandery from 1826 to 1882. Rochester, 1882.
Guernsey (Lucy Ellen). The Soldiers of Christ. New York, 1889.
Hale (Benjamin). Sources and Means of Education. Lecture delivered before the Union Lyceum, Lyons. Geneva, 1846.
Hall (A. G.). Twenty-fifth Anniversary Sermon, Third Presbyterian Church. Rochester, 1855.
Hall (A. G.). Discourse at Funeral of Moses Chapin (1791–1865).
Hall (Basil). Travels in North America in the years 1827–8. 2 vols., Edinburgh, 1829.
Hart (Roswell). Speech on Reconstruction. House of Representatives. Washington, 1866.
Heckewelder (John). History, Manners and Customs of the Indian Nations. Philadelphia, 1876.
Hartford Convention, History of. New York, 1833.
Hawes (Lucy W.). Buffalo Fifty Years Ago. Buffalo, 1886.
Hayes (Geo. E.). Geology of Buffalo. Buffalo, 1869.
Hayward, (John). New England Gazetteer (3d ed.). Boston, 1839.
Hickok (M. J.). Eulogy on Henry Clay. Rochester, July 13, 1852.

Hibbard (F. G.). History of the late East Genesee Conference, Methodist Episcopal Church. New York, 1887.

Highways and Bridges. Revised Act of New York State Legislature, Jan. 1, 1828. Rochester, 1829.

Hill (David J.). The American College and Liberal Education. Inaugural Address, June 19, 1889.

Hinman (R. R.). Letters from English Kings and Queens to Governors of Connecticut. Hartford, 1886.

Holly (Myron). Oration; Lyons, July 4, 1826, Fiftieth Anniversary, Independence of the United States. Canandaigua, 1826.

Homœopathic Hospital, First Annual Report, 1891.

Horticultural Society Western New York; Twenty-first Annual Meeting, Rochester, Jan. 5 and 6, 1876.

Hosmer (W. H. C.). Later Lays and Lyrics. Rochester, 1873.

—Yonnondio, or The Warrior of the Genesee. A Poem. Rochester, 1844.

—Address and Poem delivered before the Was-Ah-Ho-De-No-Sou-Ne, or New Confederacy of the Iroquois, Aug. 14, 1845.

Hotchkin (J. H.). History of the Purchase and Settlement of Western New York, and of the Presbyterian Church in that section. New York, 1848.

Hough (F. B., Editor). Indian Treaties. 2 v., Albany, 1861.

Hubbard (J. N.). An Account of Red Jacket and his People, 1750 to 1830. Albany, 1886.

—Life and Adventures of Moses Van Campen. Dansville, 1841.

Hughes (Thomas P.). American Ancestry. 4 v., Albany, 1887–9.

Humane Society, Annual Report, 1891.

—Constitution and By-Laws, 1888.

Husband (Thos. B.). Memorial of. Rochester, 1887.

Kempis (Thomas à). The Imitation of Christ. Manlius, N. Y., 1816.

Indian Problem of New York State. Report of Special Committee on. (Containing historical matter relating to Early History of Genesee Country.) Albany, 1889.

Industrial School. Annual Reports, 1871–87.

Industries of Rochester. Rochester, 1888.

Ingham (Marietta, one of the founders of Ingham University). Sermon on the death of, by Wm. L. Parsons, June 6, 1867.

James (Wm., Pastor Brick Church). Discourse: Moral Responsibility of the American Nation, July 4, 1828. Rochester, 1828.

Johnson (J. H.). Niagara Falls Guide. Rochester, 1852.

Jones (Chas. C.). History of Georgia. 2 v., Boston, 1883.

Judson (Mrs. A. C.). The World as It Was and Will Be. Rochester, 1853.

Kelsey (John). Pioneers of Rochester. Rochester, 1854.

Kennedy (James H.). The Three Witnesses of the Book of Mormons. n. p., n. d., (1890).

Kennicott (E. D.). Zethe, and other Poems. Rochester, 1837.

Ketchum (William). An Authentic and Comprehensive History of Buffalo. 2 v., Buffalo, 1865.

Kirkham (Samuel). English Grammar. 10th ed. Rochester, 1828.

Lathrop (L. E.). Farmer's Library; Essay on Agriculture. 3d ed. Rochester, 1828.

Lee (Henry W.). The Baptized Child; Christmas offering to the children of St. Luke's Church. Rochester, 1851.

—Two Discourses; The Papal Aggression. St. Luke's Church, May 4, 1851. Rochester, 1851.

Letchworth (W. P.). Technologic Training in Reform Schools. Address before Managers of Western House of Refuge, with Letters from J. D. Runkle and M. B. Anderson. Buffalo, 1884.

Letter-Writer. Complete and Fashionable. Rochester, 1834.

Levi (Joseph M.). Photo.-Micrographic Work and Apparatus. n. p., n. d.

Little (Mrs. W. S.). Story of Massacre of Cherry Valley. (Read before Rochester Historical Society, Dec. 12, 1890.)

Livingston County Historical Society. Annual Meetings, 1888–91. Dansville, 1888–91.

Locke (Clinton.) Sermon in memory of H. J. Whitehouse, Sept. 15, 1874.

Lodge (H. C.). Short History of the English Colonies in America. New York, 1891.

Loomis (Horatio N.). Trial of, for Libel, June 24, 1850. Buffalo, 1850.

Lovejoy (Isaac). Dr. Lovejoy's New Chemical Remedies. Rochester, 1856.

Ludlow (E. G.). Lake Fevers and other Diseases of the Genesee Country in the State of New York. New York, 1823.

Lyceum, Rochester. Constitution, &c., 1842. (Ms.)

Medical College, Eclectic, Central New York. Report of Committee on, to New York Legislature, March 27, 1852. (Adverse report.)

Memorial Pavilion. Souvenir, Highland Park, 1890. Rochester, 1891.

Military Statistics New York State. Chief of the Bureau of; First Annual Report. Albany, 1864.

Miner (Charles). History of Wyoming. Philadelphia, 1845.

Monroe County Workhouse. Act for Construction and Rules for Regulation of. Rochester, 1854.

Moral Reform Society of Rochester, organized August 5, 1836. MS. copy of the Recording Secretary's Book of Records.

Morey (Cornell). Practical Arithmetic. Rochester, 1856.

Morey (Wm. C.). Genesis of a Written Constitution. n. p., 1891.

McMaster (Guy H.). History of the Settlement of Steuben County, N. Y. Bath, 1853.

McNaughton (J. H.). The Story of Yokeen. Dansville, 1890.

Mann (Newton M.). Rational View of the Bible. Rochester, 1879.

Marshall (O. H.). Historical Writings. Early History Western New York, &c., with Introduction by W. L. Stone. Albany, 1887.

Maude (John). Visit to the Falls of Niagara in 1800. London, 1826.

Mechanics' Institute. General Information, first and second years, 1885–87.

—First and Second Annual Reports, 1886–7.

—Circular, 8th year, 1889–90.

Morgan (Lewis H.). Diffusion against Centralization, Lecture before Rochester Athenæum and Mechanics' Association, Jan. 6, 1852. Rochester, 1852.

Morgan (Wm.). Illustrations of Masonry. "Printed for the author, William Morgan," n. p., 1827.

—Illustrations of Masonry. "Printed for the author." Rochester, 1827.

—Illustrations of Masonry. 12th ed., Rochester, 1827.

Morse (J.). American Gazetteer. Boston, 1797.

Munro (Robert). Description of the Genesee Country. New York, 1804.

N. (S. V.). Mein Besuch Amerika's im Sommer 1814. Aarau, 1827.
Natural History. New York State Cabinet. Regents' Report. Albany, 1850.
Neely (Henry A.). Sermon on death of A. J. Brackett (1815–1862), Jan. 25, 1862.
Nettleton (Asahel). Village Hymns. Supplement to Watts' Psalms and Hymns. New York, 1828.
New England Genealogical and Historical Register, 1847–1868. 22 v., Boston, 1847–68.
New York Colonial Land Papers. Calendar of, 1643–1803. Albany, 1864.
New York Historical Society. Collections. Publication Fund Series. 14 v., New York, 1868–79, 1882–84.
New York State, Documentary History. 4 v., Albany, 1849–51.
New York State Manual for Legislature. Albany, 1864.
New York State Survey, 1887. Albany, 1887.
Niagara Falls Guide. Rochester, 1852.
Norton (A. T.). Gen. J. Sullivan's Campaign against the Iroquois. Lima, 1879.
Oneida Historical Society. Transactions at Utica, N. Y., 1887–89. Utica, 1889.
Onderdonk (H. U.). Appeal to Religious Public, with Three Dissertations on Regeneration, &c. Canandaigua, 1818.
Ordinances of City Rochester, 1848, 1862, 1867, 1882. 4 v.
Osgoodby (W. W.). Osgoodby's Phonetic Short-Hand, compared with the Howard Pitman System.
—Osgoodby's Stenographic Miscellany. Rochester, n. d.
Ostrander (Tobias). Practical Arithmetic. Canandaigua, 1834.
O'Reilly (Henry). Sketches of Rochester and Western New York. Rochester, 1838.
—American Political Anti-Masonry. New York, 1880.
—American Civil War, Memories of the Rebellion. New York, 1879.
—Notices of Sullivan's Campaign; or, Revolutionary Warfare in Western New York. Rochester, 1842.
Orphan Asylum. Organized Feb., 1837. Constitution and By-Laws, and Officers. Rochester, 1868.
—Constitution, By-Laws and Annual Reports, 1875 to 1883. Rochester, 1875–83.
—Annual Reports, 1883–1888.
Palmer (Noble). Sermon in memory of Ormus Doolittle. Rochester, 1872.
Park Commissioners, Board of. By-Laws. New York, 1888.
Parker (Mrs. J. M.). Rochester: A Story Historical. Rochester, 1884.
—A Defeated Success. Story of the Russian Telegraph. (In Overland Monthly. July, 1888.)
Patching (Tallcut). Religious Convincement and Plea for the Baptism and Communion of the Spirit, and that which is of material Bread, Wine and Water rejected as Jewish Rites. Rochester, 1843.
Peck (Wm. F.). Semi-Centennial History of Rochester. Syracuse, 1884.
Phillips (Charles). Speeches and Last Moments of. Also, Speech of Robert Emmett. Rochester, 1823.
Pillsbury (Parker). Acts of the Anti-Slavery Apostles. Concord, 1883.
Pitkin (Tim.). Statistics of the United States. New Haven, 1835.
Pioneer Association Western New York, organized, 1847. Names of members up to 1866. Rochester, 1866.
Political Tracts. Boston, 1807–9.

Pomeroy (J. N.). Address on Presentation of Memorial Portrait of, by C. B. Ripley, 1888.

Pouchot (M.). Late War in North America, 1755–60. F. B. Hough, tr. and ed. 2 v., Roxbury, 1866.

Pouchot (M.). Mèmoires sur la derniere guerre de l' Amèrique Septentrionale. 3 v., Yverdon, 1781.

Powers' Art Gallery. Catalogue, 1890, with Introduction by Jas. D. Trenor.

Red Jacket. Obsequies of, Buffalo, Oct. 9, 1884. Buffalo, 1885.

Remington (C. K.). Ship-Yard of the Griffon. Buffalo, 1891.

Revelation of Free-Masonry, by a Convention of Seceding Masons. Rochester, 1827.

Rider (Wheelock). The Frequency of Preventable Blindness. Rochester, 1888.

Robinson (Richard P.) and Jewett (Helen). A Novel. Rochester, 1849.

Robertson (John B.). Trial of, Rochester, Jan. 12–20, 1858.

Rochester Art Club. Organized 1877; Incorporated 1882. Constitution and By-Laws.

—Annual Catalogues, 1880, 1882–1890.

Rochester (Nathaniel). Brief Sketch of Life of, by himself. n. p., n. d.

Rochester Academy of Science. Proceedings, 1889–90.

—Catalogue of Exhibits, Dec. 6, 1887.

—Constitution and By-Laws. Revised, 1889.

Rochester Athenæum. Young Men's Association. Catalogue of Library, 1839. Rochester, 1839.

—Rise, Progress and Condition of. n. p., 1840.

Rochester Athenæum and Mechanics' Association. Catalogue of Library, 1854.

—President's Annual Report, 1858, with Report of the Lecture Committee, 1858–9.

Rochester Illustrated. Rochester, 1890.

—By H. Page & Co. 12 parts, 4to., n. p., 1890.

—Alliance Pub. Co., n. d.

Rochester Savings Bank. Charter and By-Laws, 1874. Rochester, 1874.

Roe (J. O.). Adenoid Growth in the Vault of the Pharynx. New York, 1879.

Rogers (Robert). A Concise Account of North America. London, 1769.

Rowley (Mary S.). Froth and Foam. Rochester, 1888.

Rural Annual and Horticultural Directory, 1862. Rochester, 1862.

St. Andrew's Brotherhood. Constitution and By-Laws. Organized 1879. Rochester, 1886.

St. Luke's Guild. Outline of Organization. Easter, 1882. Rochester, 1882.

Savage (Eleazer). Manual of Church Discipline. Rochester, 1844.

Saxe (Asa). Sermon: Fear in Religion. Rochester, March 5, 1879.

Schaefer (Edward P.). The Hidden Voice, or the Ghost of the Old Genesee. A Story of Rochester. Rochester, 1887.

School Boy Stories. Rochester, 1871.

Schoolcraft (H. R.). Notes on the Iroquois. New York, 1846.

Scrantom (Edwin). Diaries (Ms.), and Scrap-books. 6 v., 1835–1880.

Scribner (J. M.). Scribner's Pocket Assistant. Rochester, 1856.

Selden (Mrs. Susan W.). Sermon at funeral of, April 15, 1862, by John T. Coit.

Selye (Lewis). Speeches: Tariff and Internal Tax. National Debt and Finances. Delivered in House of Representatives, June 13, 1863 and March 14, 1868. Washington, 1868.

Semi-Centennial. Souvenir and Chronological History of Rochester. Rochester, 1884.

—Official Programme of, 1834–1884. Rochester, 1884.

Seneca Lake, including Watkins Glen, Geneva, and Intermediate Points. Handbook for Tourists. New York, 1885.

Sermon, St. Luke's Church, May 1, 1870. "Precious in the Sight of the Lord is the Death of the Saints."

Shipherd (Jacob R.). History of the Oberlin-Wellington Rescue. (Slavery.) Boston, 1869.

Sibley (Hiram). Biographical Sketch of. New York, 1884.

Smith (E. Peshine). Political Economy. New York, 1860.

Smith (Edward Meigs). In Memoriam. Died April 11, 1884.

Spafford (H. G.). New York Gazetteer. Albany, 1813.

Sparks (Jared). Lives of W. R. Davie and Samuel Kirkland. (Am. Biog., vol. 25.) Boston, 1847.

Spencer (John C.). Letter to a Committee of Friends of the Administration of President Tyler, at Rochester, Oct. 19, 1842. New York, 1842.

Sprague (Hon. E. C.). Address at Semi-Centennial Celebration, Buffalo. Buffalo, 1882.

Squier (E. G.). Aboriginal Monuments of the State of New York. Smithsonian Institute, 1849.

Starr (Charles S.). Medical Study in Europe. Address at the Annual Meeting of the Medical Association of Central New York, May 20, 1884. Albany, 1884.

State Industrial School. Report of Board of Managers. Rochester, 1891.

—Condition and Necessities of, as stated by State Board of Charities. 1 v., Rochester, 1890. (See Western House of Refuge.)

Statistical and Chronological View of New York State. Rochester, 1846.

Stevens (Walter). Sermon in Memory of, by L. W. Billington. Canandaigua, 1844.

Stone (W. L.). Life of Joseph Brant. 2 v., Buffalo, 1851.

Stryker (W. S.). General Maxwell's Brigade of the New Jersey Continental Line in the Expedition against the Indians in . . . 1779. Trenton, N. J., 1885.

Stuart (C. B., City Surveyor). Map of Mt. Hope Cemetery, 1846.

Supervisors of Monroe County, Board of. Proceedings, 1854, 1856, 1865–7, 1870, 1871, 1873-91.

Swift (Lewis). Simple Lessons in Astronomy. Rochester, 1887,

Thomas (Arad). Pioneer History of Orleans County, N. Y. Albion, N. Y., 1870.

Taylor (Wm. R., Pastor Brick Church). The Rise of Christian Associations. (Anniversary of Y. M. C. A., Syracuse, Nov., 1888.)

Telegraph Magazine., Dec. 15, 1852. New York.

Tooker (Manly). Poems and Jottings of Itineracy in Western New York. Rochester, 1860.

Tourist, The. Manual for Travelers on the Hudson River, Western and Northern Canals and Railroads, and Stage Route to Niagara Falls. New York, 1839.

Trinity Church Guild. Office of Devotion, Constitution and By-Laws. Rochester, 1876.

True (B. O.). The Church of England: Its Present Condition and Phases of Its Recent History. 1889.

Turner (C. P.). Pioneer History of Western New York. Buffalo, n. d.

—Pioneer Period of Western New York. Buffalo, 1888.

Turner (O.). History of Phelps and Gorham's Purchase. Rochester, 1851.
—History of the Holland Purchase. Buffalo, 1849.
University of Rochester.
—Alumni Proceedings, 1872–3.
—Class Day Exercises, June 26, 1876. Ballston Spa, N. Y., 1876.
—Delta Upsilon Fraternity Constitution. Rochester, 1874.
—Delta Upsilon Society University Annual, 1871, 1873.
—Delta Upsilon Fraternity. Catalogue of the, 1870. Utica, 1870.
—Interpres, 1874, 1876, 1877, 1882. Rochester, 1874–82.
—Outline History of. Rochester, 1876.
—Triennial Catalogue, 1850–1873.
Upper Crust Party, The Great, which came off Feb. 29, 1847. Irondequoit, 1847.
Van Ingen (J. V.). Pocket Mirror, or the Church's Pattern of a Good Life Rochester, 1872.
—Memories of Holy Week, 1874.
Vick (James). Monthly Magazine. 3 v., Rochester, 1878–80.
—Vick's Illustrated Magazine. April, 1883.
Vought (J. G.). A Treatise on Bowel Complaints. Rochester, 1823.
Walworth (R. H.). Hyde Genealogy. 2 v., Albany, 1864.
War of 1812. Battles of. Official Accounts of. New York, 1817.
War of 1861. Notes and Observations during Four Years Service with the 98th N. Y. Volunteers, by Col. Wm. Kreutzer. Philadelphia, 1878.
Ward (F. DeW.). Churches of Rochester. Rochester, 1871.
Ward (F. DeW.). Churches of Rochester, 1815–71. Rochester, 1871.
—Historical Address on Geneseo, N. Y., 1848–1888. Geneseo, 1889.
Warner Observatory. History and Work of, 1883–1886. Rochester, 1887.
Water Commissioners. Reports, 1872–75.
Water Supply for Rochester. Report on Introduction of, by Daniel Marsh. Rochester, 1860.
—R. Holly's System of Water Supply. Lockport, 1872.
Water Works for Rochester. Laws Relating to Construction of. Rochester, 1873.
Watson (Elkanah). History of Western Canals of New York, 1788 to 1819, with History of Modern Agricultural Societies, 1807 to 1820. Albany, 1820.
Watson (John F.). Annals of New York City and State in the Olden Time Philadelphia, 1846.
Watson (Winslow C.). Men and Times of the Revolution. New York, 1865.
Werner (E. A.). Civil List and Constitutional History State of New York. Albany, 1888.
Western Education Society. Eighth Report, Dec. 28, 1825. Utica, 1826.
Western House of Refuge. Report of the Special Investigating Committe. n. p., 1884.
—Managers' 12th Annual Report. Albany, 1861.
Western New York Business Directory, 1842–3, by J. Dagget & Co. New York, 1842.
Western New York Institution for Deaf Mutes. Annual Reports, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 7th, 9th, and 11th, 1879, 1880, 1881, 1883, 1885, 1887.
—Report of Standing Committee on the Deaf and Dumb to State Board of Charities, 1890.

Western Union Telegraph Co. Annual Report, 1869. New York, 1869.
—President's Annual Report, Oct. 11, 1876. New York, 1876.
—Statement of, on Proposed Union of Telegraph and Postal Systems. Cambridge, 1869.
Whitbeck (Dr. J. F.). In Memoriam. Rochester, 1881.
Wilder (A. Carter). Memorial of, Dec. 23, 1875.
Wilkeson (John). Manufacture of Iron in Buffalo. Buffalo, 1864.
Williams (John). Sermon at Lenten Ordination of S. M. Rice, A. N. Littlejohn and Geo. C. Foot, to Order of Deacons, 1848. Auburn, 1848.
Willson (George). Practical Arithmetic. Canandaigua, 1836.
—American Class Reader. Canandaigua, 1836.
Women's Christian Association of Rochester. Third Biennial Report, 1890.

The preceding list contains the more important books now in the possession of the Society. The purpose of the library Committee is to restrict the library, as far as possible to those works which have a bearing upon the history of that portion of New York State covered by the Phelps and Gorham Purchase.

Contributions of books, pamphlets, newspapers, maps, scrap-books, manuscripts, letters, and relics in any way relating to Rochester or to the history of Western New York or of its residents, whether red or white, are solicited for the library. Contributions of money are needed even more; there are many scarce and important books which must be bought when they come into the market, such as Champlain's, Charlevoix's and other early travels, the Jesuit Relations and the early maps. Lack of money has caused the loss of many excellent opportunities within the past year. The library has lost one good collection of Indian relics and at least one valuable collection of manuscripts and pamphlets, by the lack of a few hundred dollars.

Books on genealogy are desirable, as containing family history of residents of the region. We also need maps and atlases of Rochester, of Monroe county, and of all the neighboring counties.

If the members and friends of the society will make some effort we shall soon have a most creditable library. It is becoming more difficult every day to collect the books and papers of the earliest residents of Rochester. Earnest efforts alone will now rescue many of them from utter loss.

Send all contributions to the

LIBRARIAN OF THE ROCHESTER HISTORICAL SOCIETY,
412 Wilder Building,
Rochester, N. Y.

ERRATA.

Page 24, line 13, for "the East Indies," read "Dutch Guiana."

Page 31, line 1, for "the," read "these," and line 6, for "New England," read "Massachusetts."

Page 34, line 4 from bottom, for "Massachusetts," read "Connecticut."

Page 38, line 21, after "Birdsall," insert "two of the New York lessees."

Page 43, line 11, for "nine," read "three."

Page 44, line 12 from bottom, for "June," read "January," and line 9 from bottom, for "Joseph," read "Jasper."

Page 45, line 9, for "west," read "east."

Page 49, line 8, erase "when Joseph Fellows became the sole manager."

NHMRL0005639

S0-EJP-944